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ORIGIN, DOCTRINE CONSTITUTION

AND

DISCIPLINE

OF THE

UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST

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CONTENTS.

PART I.

THE CHURCH.

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	ORIGIN OF THE CHURCH,	7
II.	CONFESSION OF FAITH,	12
III.	CONSTITUTION,	15

PART II.

MEMBERSHIP, GOVERNMENT, AND MINISTRY.

IV.	MEMBERS,	19
	Reception of Members,	19
	Duties of Members,	21
	Trial of Members,	25
	Transfer and Dismissal of Members,	27
V.	GOVERNMENT OF THE CHURCH,	29
	Classes,	29
	Class-Leaders,	30
	Class-Stewards,	30
	Official Boards,	31
	Quarterly Conference,	33
	Annual Conference,	36
	General Conference,	38
	General Church Treasurer,	42
	Old People's Home,	42
VI.	MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH,	43
	Exhorters,	43
	Quarterly-Conference Preachers,	43
	Annual Conference Preachers,	45
	Reception of Preachers from Other Churches,	48
	Classification of the Ministry,	48

CHAPTER PAGE

VI. MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH, *continued.*
Elders, ... 49
Presiding Elders, ... 51
Bishops, ... 53
Trial of Preachers, ... 56
Marriage—Who May Solemnize, ... 57
Preachers' Duties in General, ... 58

VII. ITINERANCY, ... 60
Itinerants, ... 60
Duties of Itinerants, ... 61
Preachers' Salaries, ... 64

VIII. DEACONESSES, ... 66
In Local Churches, ... 66
Course of Study, ... 67
Deaconess Homes, ... 68

IX. COURSES OF STUDY, ... 69
For Quarterly-Conference Preachers, ... 69
For Annual-Conference Preachers, ... 70
German Course of Reading, ... 72
Completing the Course, ... 74
Preparation for the Ministry, ... 74

X. APPEALS, ... 75
From the Decision of a Class, ... 75
From the Decision of a Quarterly Conference, ... 75
Court of Appeals, ... 75

XI. SECEDING MEMBERS. Special Enactment, ... 78

PART III.

MORAL REFORM.

XII. SPECIAL RULES, ... 79
Temperance, ... 79
Sabbath Observance, ... 79
Slavery, ... 80
Secret Combinations, ... 80
Oaths, ... 80
War, ... 81
Marriage Relation, ... 81

PART IV.

PROPERTY.

CHAPTER PAGE

XIII. Church-Houses and Parsonages, ... 82

XIV. Board of Church Trustees, ... 86

PART V.

INSTITUTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING.

XV. Sabbath Schools, ... 87
Constitution of the General Sabbath-School Board, ... 87
Annual-Conference Relations and Duties,.. 90
Organization of Sabbath Schools, ... 90
Sabbath Schools and the Missionary Work, 91
Constitution for a Sabbath School, ... 92

XVI. Young People's Christian Union, ... 94
Organization, ... 94
Constitution, ... 95
Junior Society—Constitution, ... 98

XVII. Christian Stewardship Commission, ... 102

PART VI.

BENEVOLENT AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

XVIII. Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society—Constitution, ... 103

XIX. Woman's Missionary Association, ... 109
Articles of Incorporation, ... 109
By-Laws, ... 109
Branch Constitution, ... 111
Local Constitution, ... 113

XX. Women's Aid Society—Constitution, ... 115

XXI. Church-Erection Society—Constitution, ... 118

XXII. Printing Establishment and Church Publications, ... 123
Printing Establishment, ... 123
Church Publications, ... 125

CHAPTER PAGE

XXIII. EDUCATION, ... 127
Constitution of the Board of Education,.. 127
Academies, ... 130
Colleges, ... 131
Union Biblical Seminary, ... 132

XXIV. HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ... 136
General Conference Approval, ... 136
Constitution, ... 136

PART VII.

BOUNDARIES.

XXV. BISHOPS' DISTRICTS, ... 140

XXVI. ANNUAL-CONFERENCE DISTRICTS, ... 141

PART VIII.

FORMULAS AND FORMS.

XXVII. FORMULAS, ... 152
Reception of Members, ... 152
The Baptism of Adults, ... 153
The Baptism of Children, ... 154
The Holy Communion, ... 155
Ordination of Elders, ... 156
Laying Corner-Stone, ... 157
Church-Dedication, ... 158
Marriage Ceremony, ... 160
Marriage Ceremony with Ring, ... 162
Burial of the Dead, ... 164
The Lord's Prayer, ... 164
The Apostles' Creed, ... 165

XXVIII. FORMS, ... 166
Certificates and Licenses, ... 166
Bequests, ... 168
Reports, ... 170

INDEX, ... 173

DISCIPLINE.

PART I.

THE CHURCH.

CHAPTER I.

ORIGIN OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST.

IN the eighteenth century it pleased the Lord our God to awaken persons in different parts of the world, who should raise up the Christian religion from its fallen state and preach the gospel of Christ crucified in its purity.

About the middle of said century, the Lord, in mercy, remembered the Germans in America, who, living scattered in this extensive country, seldom had an opportunity to hear the gospel of a crucified Saviour preached to them in their native language.

Among others, he raised up WILLIAM OTTERBEIN and MARTIN BOEHM, in the State of Pennsylvania, and GEORGE A. GUETHING, in the State of Maryland, armed them with spirit, grace, and strength to labor in his neglected vineyard, and to call, among the Germans in America, sinners to repentance. These men obeyed the call of their Lord and Master. Their labors were blessed, and they established in many places excellent societies and led many precious souls to Jesus Christ. Their sphere of action spread more and more, so that they found it necessary to look about for more fellow-laborers to toil in the vineyard of the Lord; for the harvest was great and the laborers

were few. The Lord called others, who were willing to devote their strength to his service. Such persons were accepted by one or another of the preachers as fellow-laborers.

The number of members in the society in different parts of the country continued to increase as time passed, and the gracious work of reformation spread through the States of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. Several great meetings were appointed and held annually. On such occasions OTTERBEIN would hold particular conversations with the preachers then present, and represent to them the importance of the ministry and the necessity of their utmost endeavors to save souls. At one of these meetings it was resolved to hold a conference of all the preachers, in order to consider in what manner they might be most useful.

The first conference was held in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, in the year of our Lord 1789. The following preachers were present:

WILLIAM OTTERBEIN, ADAM LEHMAN,
MARTIN BOEHM, JOHN ERNST,
GEO. A. GUETHING, HENRY WEIDNER,
CHRISTIAN NEWCOMER.

The second conference was held in Paradise Township, York County, Pennsylvania, at the house of BROTHER JOHN SPANGLER, in the year of our Lord 1791. The following preachers were present:

WILLIAM OTTERBEIN, JOHN ERNST,
MARTIN BOEHM, J. G. PFRIMMER,
GEO. A. GUETHING, JOHN NEIDIG,
CHRISTIAN NEWCOMER, BENEDICT SANDERS,
ADAM LEHMAN.

After mature deliberations as to how they might labor most usefully in the vineyard of the Lord, they again appointed as fellow-laborers such as they had come to believe had experienced true religion in their souls.

Meantime, the number of members continued to increase, and the preachers were obliged to appoint an annual conference, in order to unite themselves more closely and to labor more successfully in the vineyard of the Lord; for some had been Presbyterians or German Reformed, some Lutherans, and others Mennonites. They accordingly ap-

pointed a conference to be held on the 25th of September, 1800, in Frederick County, Maryland, at the house of BROTHER FREDERICK KEMP. The following preachers were present:

WILLIAM OTTERBEIN,	CHRISTIAN KRUM,
MARTIN BOEHM,	HENRY KRUM,
GEO. A. GUETHING,	JOHN HERSHEY,
CHRISTIAN NEWCOMER,	JACOB GEISINGER,
ADAM LEHMAN,	HENRY BOEHM,
ABRAHAM TROXEL,	DIETRICH AURAND,

J. G. PFRIMMER.

There they united themselves into a society which bears the name "UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST," and elected WILLIAM OTTERBEIN and MARTIN BOEHM as superintendents, or bishops, and agreed that each of them should have liberty as to the mode of baptism, to administer it according to his own convictions.

From this time, the society increasing still more and more, preachers were appointed to travel regularly, as the number of preaching-places could not otherwise be supplied. The work soon extended into the States of Ohio and Kentucky. It then became necessary to appoint a conference in the State of Ohio, because it was thought too laborious for the preachers who labored in those States to travel annually such a great distance to conference.

Meantime, MARTIN BOEHM and GEORGE A. GUETHING died, and BISHOP OTTERBEIN desired that another bishop should be elected, (because infirmity and old age would not permit him to superintend any longer,) who should take charge of the society, and preserve discipline and order. It was resolved at a former conference that whenever one of the bishops died another should be elected in his place. Accordingly, CHRISTIAN NEWCOMER was elected bishop, to take charge of and superintend the concerns of the society.

The want of a book of discipline in the society had long been deeply felt. Partial attempts to provide one had been made at different times. Hence it was resolved, at the conference held in the State of Ohio, that a General Conference should be held, in order to provide the same, in a manner not derogatory to the Word of God. The members of this conference were to be elected from among the preachers in the different parts of the country, by a vote

of the society in general. The following brethren were duly elected:

Christian Newcomer,	Daniel Troyer,
Abraham Hiestand,	George Benedum,
Andrew Zeller,	Abraham Troxel,
Christian Berger,	Henry G. Spayth,
Abraham Mayer,	I. Niswander,
John Schneider,	Christian Krum,
Henry Kumler,	Jacob Bowlus.

The conference convened on the 6th of June, 1815, near Mt. Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. After mature deliberation, they presented to their brethren a Book of Discipline, containing the doctrine and rules of the Church, desiring that these, together with the Word of God, should be strictly observed, and admonishing the membership in the following manner:

God is a God of order; but where there is no order and no church discipline, the spirit of love and charity will be lost.

Therefore, brethren, we beseech you to follow the example of our Lord, as it is written, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another." Let the mind be in you which was in Christ, who took upon him the form of a servant, humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, that by his grace we may submit ourselves one to another in the fear of God. He who will not submit is in want of humble love. Jesus said, "Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all." "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." "He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." Let us walk in newness of life, that the prayer of our Lord may be answered in us; that we may be one in him, and that he may give us the glory which he gave to his disciples, that we may be one, even as he and the Father are one. Therefore, beloved brethren, let us strive to be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let no one speak or think evil of his brother, but pray God that he may grant us his spirit, and an earnest desire to lead a truly devoted life, to the honor and glory of his holy name. Amen.

Editors' Note.—The foregoing account of the origin of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ appeared in the Discipline of 1815, the first Discipline published. Only the slight-

est changes in phraseology, as the years have passed, have been made. The place of the Conference of 1800, given as Frederick Kemp's, is the same as the residence of Peter Kemp, as in the recently published history of the United Brethren Church, the two men being father and son, and the farm passing from the possession of one to that of the other. The present Discipline contains the Confession of Faith and the Constitution as amended according to the action of the General Conference of 1885, and approved and confirmed by the General Conference of 1889. The Confession of Faith appeared in its first printed form in 1815. The Constitution, in its earlier form, was adopted in 1841.

CHAPTER II.

Confession of Faith.

In the name of God, we declare and confess before all men the following articles of our belief:

ARTICLE I.

Of God and the Holy Trinity.

We believe in the only true God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; that these three are one—the Father in the Son, the Son in the Father, and the Holy Ghost equal in essence or being with the Father and the Son.

ARTICLE II.

Of Creation and Providence.

We believe that this triune God created the heavens and the earth, and all that in them is, visible and invisible; that he sustains, protects, and governs these, with gracious regard for the welfare of man, to the glory of his name.

ARTICLE III.

Of Jesus Christ.

We believe in Jesus Christ; that he is very God and man; that he became incarnate by the power of the Holy Ghost and was born of the Virgin Mary; that he is the Saviour and Mediator of the whole human race, if they with full faith accept the grace proffered in Jesus; that this Jesus suffered and died on the cross for us, was buried, rose again on the third day, ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, to intercede for us; and that he will come again at the last day to judge the living and the dead.

ARTICLE IV.

Of the Holy Ghost.

We believe in the Holy Ghost; that he is equal in being with the Father and the Son; that he convinces the

world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; that he comforts the faithful and guides them into all truth.

ARTICLE V.

Of the Holy Scriptures.

We believe that the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, is the word of God; that it reveals the only true way to our salvation; that every true Christian is bound to acknowledge and receive it by the help of the Spirit of God as the only rule and guide in faith and practice.

ARTICLE VI.

Of the Church.

We believe in a holy Christian church, composed of true believers, in which the word of God is preached by men divinely called, and the ordinances are duly administered; that this divine institution is for the maintenance of worship, for the edification of believers, and the conversion of the world to Christ.

ARTICLE VII.

Of the Sacraments.

We believe that the sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, are to be used in the Church, and should be practiced by all Christians; but the mode of baptism and the manner of observing the Lord's Supper are always to be left to the judgment and understanding of each individual. Also, the baptism of children shall be left to the judgment of believing parents.

The *example* of the washing of feet is to be left to the judgment of each one, to practice or not.

ARTICLE VIII.

Of Depravity.

We believe that man is fallen from original righteousness, and, apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is not only entirely destitute of holiness, but is inclined to evil, and only evil, and that continually; and that except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of heaven.

ARTICLE IX.

Of Justification.

We believe that penitent sinners are justified before God only by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and not by works; yet that good works in Christ are acceptable to God, and spring out of a true and living faith.

ARTICLE X.

Of Regeneration and Adoption.

We believe that regeneration is the renewal of the heart of man after the image of God, through the word, by the act of the Holy Ghost, by which the believer receives the spirit of adoption and is enabled to serve God with the will and the affections.

ARTICLE XI.

Of Sanctification.

We believe that sanctification is the work of God's grace, through the word and the Spirit, by which those who have been born again are separated in their acts, words, and thoughts from sin, and are enabled to live unto God, and to follow holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

ARTICLE XII.

Of the Christian Sabbath.

We believe that the Christian Sabbath is divinely appointed; that it is commemorative of our Lord's resurrection from the grave, and is an emblem of our eternal rest; that it is essential to the welfare of the civil community, and to the permanence and growth of the Christian church, and that it should be reverently observed as a day of holy rest and of social and public worship.

ARTICLE XIII.

Of the Future State.

We believe in the resurrection of the dead; the future general judgment; and an eternal state of rewards, in which the righteous dwell in endless life, and the wicked in endless punishment.

CHAPTER III.

Constitution.

In the name of God, we, the members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, for the more speedy and effectual spread of the gospel, and in order to produce and secure uniformity in faith and practice, to define the powers and business of the General Conference as recognized by this Church, and to preserve inviolate the popular will of the membership of the Church, do ordain this Constitution:

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. All ecclesiastical power herein granted, to enact or repeal any rule or rules of discipline, is vested in a General Conference, which shall consist of elders and laymen elected in each annual-conference district throughout the Church. The number and ratio of elders and laymen, and the mode of their election, shall be determined by the General Conference.

Provided, however, That such elders shall have stood as elders in the conferences which they are to represent for no less time than three years next preceding the meeting of the General Conference to which they are elected; and that such laymen shall be not less than twenty-five years of age, and shall have been members of the Church six years, and members in the conference districts which they are to represent at least three years next preceding the meeting of the General Conference to which they are elected.

Sec. 2. The General Conference shall convene every four years, and a majority of the whole number of delegates elected shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 3. The ministerial and lay delegates shall deliberate and vote together as one body; but the General Con-

ference shall have power to provide for a vote by separate orders whenever it deems it best to do so; and in such cases the concurrent vote of both orders shall be necessary to complete an action.

SEC. 4. The General Conference shall, at each session, elect bishops from among the elders throughout the Church who have stood six years in that capacity.

SEC. 5. The bishops shall be members *ex officio* and presiding officers of the General Conference; but in case no bishop be present, the Conference shall choose a president *pro tem.*

SEC. 6. The General Conference shall determine the number and boundaries of the annual conferences.

SEC. 7. The General Conference shall have power to review the records of the annual conferences and see that the business of each annual conference is done strictly in accordance with the Discipline, and approve or annul, as the case may require.

SEC. 8. The General Conference shall have full control of the United Brethren Printing Establishment, the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society, the Church-Erection Society, the General Sabbath-School Board, the Board of Education, and Union Biblical Seminary. It shall also have power to establish and manage any other organization or institution within the Church which it may deem helpful in the work of evangelization.

SEC. 9. The General Conference shall have power to establish a court of appeals.

SEC. 10. The General Conference may—two-thirds of the members elected thereto concurring—propose changes in, or additions to, the Confession of Faith; provided, that the concurrence of three-fourths of the annual conferences shall be necessary to their final ratification.

ARTICLE II.

The General Conference shall have power, as provided in Article I., Section 1, of this Constitution, to make rules and regulations for the Church; nevertheless, it shall be subject to the following limitations and restrictions:

SECTION 1. The General Conference shall enact no rule or ordinance which will change or destroy the Confession of Faith, and shall establish no standard of doctrine contrary to the Confession of Faith.

SEC. 2. The General Conference shall enact no rule which will destroy the itinerant plan.

SEC. 3. The General Conference shall enact no rule which will deprive local preachers of their votes in the annual conferences to which they severally belong.

SEC. 4. The General Conference shall enact no rule which will abolish the right of appeal.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. We declare that all secret combinations which infringe upon the rights of those outside their organization, and whose principles and practices are injurious to the Christian character of their members, are contrary to the Word of God, and that Christians ought to have no connection with them.

The General Conference shall have power to enact such rules of discipline with respect to such combinations as in its judgment it may deem proper.

SEC. 2. We declare that human slavery is a violation of human rights, and contrary to the Word of God. It shall therefore in no wise be tolerated among us.

ARTICLE IV.

The right, title, interest, and claim of all property, both real and personal, of whatever name or description, obtained by purchase or otherwise, by any person or persons, for the use, benefit, and behoof of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, are hereby fully recognized, and held to vest in the Church aforesaid.

ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any General Conference,—two-thirds of the members elected thereto concurring,—which amendments shall be submitted to a vote of the membership throughout the Church, under regulations authorized by said conference.

A majority of all the votes cast upon any submitted amendment shall be necessary to its final ratification.

SEC. 2. The foregoing amended Constitution shall be in force from and after the first Monday after the second

Thursday of May, 1899, upon official proclamation thereof by the Board of Bishops; provided, that the General Conference elected for 1889 shall be the lawful legislative body under the amended Constitution, with full power, until its final adjournment, to enact such rules as this amended Constitution authorizes.

PART II.

MEMBERSHIP, GOVERNMENT, AND MINISTRY.

CHAPTER IV.

MEMBERS.

SECTION I.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.

1. WHEN at any meeting there are persons who desire to unite with the Church, the officiating minister shall call the applicants forward and address them as follows:

DEAR FRIENDS: Inasmuch as you present yourselves for admission into the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, we rejoice with you that through the grace of God you have been brought to a knowledge of the truth, and have been made partakers of his great salvation. The privileges you seek are above price, and the duties enjoined are solemn. It is proper that you publicly confess your faith and avow your purpose by answering the following questions:

Questions to Applicants.

2. (1) Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God, and that therein only is contained the knowledge of the way of salvation? If so, answer, "I do so believe."

(2) Have you experienced the pardon of your sins, and have you now peace with God? If so, answer, "I trust I have."

(3) Are you determined by the grace of God to follow Christ, renouncing the world and all ungodliness, seeking to lead a life of holiness and devotion to God and his cause? If so, answer, "I am, the grace of God helping me."

(4) Are you willing to be governed by our Church

Discipline, and will you contribute to the support of the gospel as God prospers you? If so, answer, "Yes."

(5) Have you been baptized?

[If the answer to this question be in the negative, then the applicant shall be instructed to attend to the duty as soon as practicable.]

Acceptance of Applicants.

3. If the persons answer the above questions in the affirmative, and no lawful objections be made by any member, then the preacher shall give his right hand to such persons as members of our Church, and record their names on the church book; provided, however, that where a local church deems it advisable for its protection against imposition, a committee may be appointed, who, together with the pastor, may make inquiry as to the advisability of admitting such applicants to membership in the Church according to the foregoing requirements.

Receiving Persons from Other Churches.

4. When persons come to us with certificates of good standing in other recognized evangelical churches, they shall answer the fourth question affirmatively, and the hand of fellowship may be given them as in other cases.

Seekers.

5. Any persons giving evidence that they are sincerely seeking the Lord, may be received under the watch-care of the Church by having their names placed upon the church book, but shall not be reported as members, nor shall they have a vote in the Church until they shall have conformed to the conditions in this section relating to the reception of members.

6. If any person thus received under the watch-care of the Church shall cease to manifest a desire to seek the Lord, the preacher in charge, by the consent of the local church or the official board, may, at any time, after personal but unsuccessful labor for his salvation, drop the name of such seeker.

Preacher's Responsibility.

7. Any preacher refusing or neglecting to ask the foregoing questions, except in the case of children, or who shall

receive members into the Church in violation of this order, shall be answerable for the same to the conference of which he is a member.

Section II.

DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

Confession.

1. All members of this Church shall acknowledge and confess that they believe the Bible to be the word of God; that they will henceforth strive, with all their hearts, to seek their eternal welfare in Christ Jesus, and work out their salvation with fear and trembling, to the end that they may be able to flee from the wrath to come.

Means of Grace.

2. Every member shall endeavor to lead a godly life; observe the ordinances of God's house, namely, baptism and the remembrance of the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ; be diligent in prayer, particularly in private, and for his own edification attend, when practicable, all our prayer- and class-meetings, and meetings for public worship.

Family Piety.

3. Heads of families should never omit to pray with their families, morning and evening, and to set them a good example in all the Christian virtues.

Singing.

4. It is the duty of all the people of God to sing his praises, and to sing them in the great congregation as well as in the private circle. It is therefore earnestly advised that all our people cultivate vocal music, so that the singing in our congregations may be improved. As a help to this end, let all our people provide themselves with hymn-books for use in public and social worship.

Love to Others.

5. Every one should strive to walk as in the presence of God, and accustom himself to a close communion with God in all his employments. He should never speak evil

of his fellow-men, but practice love toward friend and foe, do good to the poor, and endeavor to be a follower of Jesus Christ indeed.

Sabbath Observance.

6. Every one shall keep the Sabbath day holy, as required in the Word of God; neither buy nor sell, but spend the same in exercises of devotion, in reading and hearing the Word of God, and in singing spiritual hymns to the honor and glory of God.

Obedience to Government.

7. It is the duty of every member to lead a quiet, peaceable, and godly life among men; as it becomes a Christian to live in peace, and be subject to the higher or ruling powers, as the Word of God requires.

Sabbath Schools.

8. It is the duty of our members to encourage our Sabbath schools by their presence, when practicable, and always to give them their aid and influence.

Young People's Society.

9. It is the duty of the young members of the Church, when possible, to join the Young People's society, and by faithfulness to its requirements seek to develop Christian character and efficiency in Christian work.

Support of the Gospel.

10. It is the duty of all members of the Church to pay toward the support of the itinerant ministry, quarterly, or oftener, in proportion to their ability, as God has prospered them; for the Lord hath ordained that they who preach the gospel shall live of the gospel. (I. Cor. 9:14; I. Tim. 5:18.) It is earnestly urged that all our people practice the Bible method of weekly contributions. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (I. Cor. 16:2).

Delinquent Members.

11. Any member refusing to pay toward the support of the Church, if able to do so, shall be reported by the steward to the class, or official board, and if refusal is persisted

in, shall be suspended or expelled, as the class, or official board, may determine.

Support of General Interests.

12. It is also the duty of all our members to contribute, according to their ability, to the support of the various benevolent interests of the Church.

Receiving Ministers.

13. It is the duty of all districts, stations, circuits, and missions to cheerfully receive the preachers appointed by the stationing committees of the respective annual conferences.

Care of the Poor.

14. Each member of our Church should willingly and freely contribute quarterly, or oftener if need be, as God has prospered him (I. Cor. 16:2), to the support of the helpless poor.

15. When it is known by any of our class-leaders that there are poor members of the class, who by sickness, accident, or other unavoidable circumstances, have been brought to want, it shall be the duty of the leader in charge to wait upon the class, or to appoint some one to do so, to ask such aid, money, clothing, or produce, as the circumstances may require. Should any one class be unable to relieve its poor, this shall then be made known to the pastor, whose duty it shall be to inform the different classes on his charge; and if it should so happen that any one charge should be unable to meet the wants of the poor, it shall be the duty of the presiding elder to present the matter to the quarterly conferences of the different charges, so that the unavoidably poor of our Church may be provided for. (I. John 3:17; Ps. 12:1, 2.)

Nonconformity to the World.

16. Inasmuch as the Lord has commanded us not to be conformed to this world (Rom. 12:2), to lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness (Jas. 1:21), and as the principles of the Christian religion, as taught by both the precepts and example of the meek and adorable Saviour, are in strict and perfect accordance with these commandments, we therefore humbly beseech and admonish

the members of our Church to observe these divine precepts. "In like manner, also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works" (I. Tim. 2:9, 10); and "whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (I. Pet. 3: 3, 4).

Necessity of Union Among Ourselves.

17. Let us be deeply sensible of the evil of a division in principle, spirit, or practice, and of its dreadful consequences to ourselves and others. If we are united, what can stand before us? If we are divided, we shall injure ourselves, the work of God, and the souls of men. To this end:

(1) Let us be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of union.

(2) Let us pray earnestly for one another, and speak truly and freely to one another.

(3) When we meet, let us never part without prayer, if prayer is at all practicable.

(4) Let us take great care not to despise one another's gifts.

(5) Let us never speak lightly of one another.

(6) Let us defend one another's character in everything, as far as is consistent with truth.

(7) Let us labor in honor, each preferring another before himself.

(8) Let us seriously examine the causes, evils, and cures of heart and church divisions.

Duty of Obedience.

18. The foregoing rules are drawn up for the better regulation of our Church; and we believe they are founded upon the Word of God, and that their observance is incumbent upon all members. Should any violate or habitually neglect these rules, they shall be, by their respective class-leaders, admonished to reformation; and should they not

reform, they shall be suspended or expelled, as the case may require, by vote of the local church or official board.

Section III.

TRIAL OF MEMBERS.

Personal Trespass.

1. When members trespass against one another, let the following directions be followed:

"If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more . . . And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican" (Matt. 18:15-17); that is, he shall be expelled by the local church or official board.

Immoral Conduct.

2. In case of a member accused of immoral conduct, the class or official board shall appoint one or more to visit the accused person, and, if possible, reclaim him; but if unsuccessful, and the guilt be denied, he shall be tried by the class to which he belongs, or a committee thereof, chosen by the parties concerned, with the preacher in charge of the circuit or station as chairman; and if found guilty, the accused shall be expelled, by a vote of the local church or official board, unless satisfaction be given. If the accused refuse to choose his committeeman when properly notified, the quarterly conference shall choose a second person, and these two a third, which committee shall try the case and decide. Yet cases may occur where it would be expedient to choose a committee from some other class or classes than the one to which the parties belong, in which case it shall be lawful to do so. Also, an elder may be chosen as chairman, should the preacher in charge deem this to be best. Should any member be dissatisfied with the decision, an appeal may be had to the quarterly conference, by giving notice thereof to the preacher in charge, or secretary of the trial. (See Chapter X., Section I., page 75.) In such cases, however, the same person shall not sit in judgment on the same case.

Disobedience to the Order of the Church.

3. In cases of neglect of duty of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging sinful tempers or words, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church: First, let private reproof be given by the preacher or leader; and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault, proper humiliation, and a promise to reform, the person may be borne with. On a second offense, the preacher or leader shall take with him one or two faithful members. On a third offense, let the case be brought before the local church, or class, or a select committee; and if there be no satisfactory humiliation, the offender shall be expelled by vote of the local church or official board. In case the accused shall deny his guilt and demand a trial, and there be a reasonable doubt or question about his guilt, he shall be tried by a committee, and if found guilty, he shall be expelled. In case of trial under this clause, the leader shall act in behalf of the local church; or if the leader be the offender, the steward shall act as prosecutor.

Disputes.

4. In case of a dispute between members or preachers, the preacher to whom it shall be known shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and, if necessary, shall recommend to the contending parties a reference to a committee consisting of one arbiter chosen by the plaintiff, and another by the defendant, and a third by these two; then these three are to decide. But if the preacher to whom the dispute is known shall refuse or neglect to act, then the quarterly conference shall appoint some one to carry out the rule; and if either or both disputants refuse to choose an arbiter, the quarterly conference shall appoint the first and second, and these two a third, who shall hear the case and decide.

Right of Appeal.

5. Should either party be dissatisfied with the decision, an appeal may be taken to the next quarterly conference for a second arbitration, where each party shall choose two arbiters, and the four shall choose a fifth, a decision of a majority of whom shall be final. Any member refusing to abide by this decision shall be expelled without further trial. Members of the Church or congregation who are

present at a class trial, but take no part in said trial, are not disqualified because of said presence from sitting on the case, if an appeal is taken from the decision reached by said church.

Going to Law Forbidden.

6. Any member refusing, in case of debt or dispute, to refer the matter to arbitration when recommended to him by a preacher or leader, or who shall enter into lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, shall be dealt with as in case of other immoralities, except when the case is of such a nature as to require and justify a process at law, as in acting as administrators, or when a member is in danger, by delay, of suffering a loss of property.

Record of Trials.

7. A faithful record of the proceedings of any church trial conducted in a class shall be kept by the class-leader in a book provided for that purpose; and it shall be his duty, in case of an appeal, to furnish his record to the quarterly conference.

Order in Trials.

8. All church trials shall be conducted in a consistent Christian manner, without the employment of magistrates and attorneys to administer oaths and conduct investigations. The Manual of Discipline, authorized by the General Conference, shall be the recognized authority governing all Church trials.

Section IV.

TRANSFER AND DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS.

Transfers.

1. When a member of our Church moves from one field to another, he shall obtain a certificate of transfer by a majority vote of the class or official board of the church to which he belongs, signed by a preacher or leader, except where he is not in reach of a class; in which case any of our preachers may give a certificate to such person if he is known to be in good standing; and the pastor shall notify the preacher in charge nearest the point to which the member moves. And in case a member moves

from a charge and fails to report to the class of which he is a member annually, he may be marked "removed."

Amenability of Certified Members.

2. Any person receiving a certificate of membership is amenable to the class from which he receives it, until he deposits his certificate with some other local church.

Limit of Certificate.

3. A member who receives a certificate is required to present it to some local church, or return it to the class by which it was issued, within eighteen months, provided that the holder of the certificate is within reach of a local church; otherwise it shall become null and void.

Dismissal.

4. If any of our members desire to leave the Church, and their Christian life has been good, and they have settled all of their subscriptions and assessments, if able to do so. they shall be entitled to an honorable dismissal from the class by a vote of the class, or official board, signed by the pastor or leader.

Membership of Preachers.

5. An annual-conference member may be received into a class on his ministerial credentials, provided said credentials are held in force by the conference to which he is amenable.

Membership of Preachers Required.

6. All quarterly- and annual-conference preachers are required to hold membership in some local church, and upon neglect or refusal to do so shall lose their official relation.

CHAPTER V.

Government of the Church.

Section I.

CLASSES.

Local Church Organization.

1. A LOCAL church or congregation of the United Brethren in Christ may be organized, where not already established, by any regularly authorized minister of the denomination, who shall enroll the names of not less than five resident persons in a book of record, giving to each the right hand of fellowship, and by electing one or more class-leaders and appointing one or more stewards.[1]

Division into Classes.

2. A local church may be divided into two or more classes, where it is deemed proper to do so, by the pastor and at least three other members of the church who shall be chosen by the official board. In all cases, each class shall elect its own leader, near the close of each official year. After such division the word "class" shall denote only a section of the local church or congregation.

Disbanding Classes.

3. When a quarterly conference deems it impracticable to maintain the organization of a church in any place, whatever members remain shall be by the pastor transferred to such class as may be desirable to the member or members so transferred.

[1] NOTE.—Until the congregation thus constituted becomes so large as to require dividing into classes or sections, for purposes of convenience and efficiency, the words "church," "congregation," and "class" shall denote the same aggregate church membership.

Section II.

CLASS-LEADERS.

Qualifications.

1. It shall be the leader's duty to live a pious life and set a godly example before his class; carefully to study the Holy Scriptures, fully qualifying himself for the faithful performance of his duties as a leader and counselor of his class.

Holding Meetings.

2. It shall be his duty to meet his class, in class- or prayer-meeting, as often as practicable, to speak to them concerning their spiritual welfare, and exhort them to unity and love. He shall extend the freedom of our prayer- and class-meetings to all sincere and well-disposed persons who may desire to attend them.

Visiting the Sick and Delinquent.

3. When any of his members are sick, or delinquent in the performance of their duties, he shall visit them and labor with them as circumstances may require.

Class Record.

4. He shall keep a record of the members of the class.

Dismissal for Delinquency.

5. Any class-leader failing to discharge these duties may, on complaint, be removed by the quarterly conference.

Section III.

CLASS-STEWARDS.

1. Every church may have one or more class-stewards and one or more presiding-elder stewards; the former to be chosen as provided for on page 62 under "Annual Reorganization," the latter to be appointed by the pastor.

Collections for Pastors.

2. On circuits each member shall contribute quarterly, monthly, or oftener, and on stations, monthly or weekly, for the support of the pastor. Each steward shall keep

an accurate account of the amount paid by each member of the class, in a book provided for that purpose, and report the same, with name and amount, to each quarterly conference; provided, however, that where the envelope system is in use it shall be the duty of the general steward to receive the envelopes, keep a correct record of names and amounts paid, and report the same to the official board monthly. He shall furnish each steward, at the end of each month, a list of the names of those who are delinquent in payment of pastor's salary, with statement of the amount due from each. The stewards shall then endeavor to secure prompt payment of such deficits.

Elements for the Lord's Supper.

3. It shall also be the duty of stewards to provide the elements for the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, always securing unfermented wine.

Dismissal for Delinquency.

4. For the faithful discharge of their duties as stewards, they shall be accountable to the quarterly conference, which shall have power to dismiss them for official delinquency.

Presiding-Elder Steward.

5. The presiding-elder steward shall, under the direction of the pastor, secure quarterly, by private solicitation or otherwise, one-fourth of the yearly assessment to the class for presiding elder's salary, and report the same to the pastor on or before the time of each quarterly conference.

Church Clerk.

6. There may be a church clerk who shall be elected by the local church or official board, who shall be the pastor's clerical assistant and work under his direction.

SECTION IV.

OFFICIAL BOARDS.

1. The properly recognized members of the quarterly conference shall be the members of the official board of each local church.

2. The pastor shall be the president of the board; in his absence one of the members shall be elected president *pro tem.* The sessions shall begin and close with devotional exercises.

3. The board shall elect a secretary, who shall keep a record of its proceedings.

4. The general steward, elected by the quarterly conference, may be also the church treasurer. The treasurer shall receive all moneys that have been collected from class-stewards, or otherwise, and receipt therefor, and said treasurer shall pay out all moneys in his hands as the official board may direct.

5. The official board shall receive statements of all subscriptions and moneys received and disbursed for the interest of the station; and all persons intrusted with moneys or subscriptions, whether trustees, stewards, the treasurer, or others, shall report the same to the official meeting as soon as possible.

6. It shall receive from each class-leader a statement in reference to the religious condition of his class.

7. The official board shall be the estimating committee of the charge, unless otherwise specifically ordered by the quarterly conference as provided in Section V., paragraph 13, page 35; and said official board shall meet the pastor as soon as practicable after the annual conference, and make out an estimate of the expenses of the station for the year—the preacher's salary, the presiding elder's salary, sexton hire, cost of light, fuel, insurance, and any other ordinary expenses incident to the year's general account. It shall also determine how these funds are to be secured,—whether by assessments or subscription, and whether by envelope collections made weekly, or by the class-stewards, or both,—what per cent. is to be devoted to the preacher's and presiding elder's salaries, and what per cent. to the current expenses of the charge.

8. The official board shall revise the church records, as provided in Section II., paragraph 3, page 62, and on stations shall be the body to grant transfers and dismissals from the Church.

9. The official board for stations shall meet once a month, and for circuits, at the call of the pastor.

Review by Quarterly Conference.

10. The acts of the official board shall be approved by the quarterly conference.

Section V.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.

Members.

1. The members of the quarterly conference shall be the presiding elder of the district, the preacher in charge, and all properly recognized preachers, exhorters, deaconesses, class-leaders, class-stewards, and all other stewards, whose appointments have been ratified by the quarterly conference, presidents of ladies' aid societies, church clerks, when properly recognized by the church, or official board, or quarterly conference, presidents of local woman's missionary associations, the church treasurer, trustees of church and parsonage houses, superintendents of Sabbath schools, and presidents of Young People's societies, organized in harmony with the provisions of Discipline controlling the organization of such societies, and superintendents of Junior societies, when similarly organized, all treasurers of Ladies' Aid societies, Woman's Missionary societies, Young People's societies, and Sabbath schools, when said persons are members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, who reside within the bounds of the station or circuit, or hold membership therein. Such members as are present at any regular meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The quarterly conference shall open and close with prayer. The quarterly conference shall be amenable to the annual conference for its official acts.

Duties and Powers of the Quarterly Conference.

2. In the absence of the presiding elder, the quarterly conference shall elect a chairman *pro tem.*, whose official acts shall be valid.

3. It shall elect a secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep a correct record of all its proceedings in a book provided for that purpose, in which the names of all the members composing the said conference shall be entered.

4. It shall make inquiry into the moral deportment and official character of all its members.

5. On stations, it shall elect, at the last quarterly conference of the year, a church treasurer, wherever desirable, who shall be a member of the quarterly conference.

6. It shall enforce discipline in all the classes under its jurisdiction, but in no case disorganize a class unless the preliminary steps have been taken as required in Chapter V., Section I., paragraph 3, page 29.

7. It shall hear the reports of the stewards, and make settlements with the pastor.

Appeals and Trials.

8. It shall receive and try all appeals, references, and complaints that may come regularly before it; but no member of quarterly conference can be suspended or expelled from the Church prior to a committee trial.

Licensing Preachers and Exhorters.

9. It shall have power to grant license to preach or exhort, according to the provisions of Chapter VI., "Ministry of the Church."

Renewing Licenses.

10. It shall renew the license of exhorters and quarterly conference preachers annually, if they are found worthy, and arrange a plan for the local preachers to preach regularly at stated places, as the quarterly conference may direct.

Recommending to the Annual Conference.

11. The quarterly conference may recommend to the annual conference licentiates of one or more years' standing, who have completed the course of reading required.

General Stewards.

12. The quarterly conference, at its last session in each year, shall elect by ballot a steward for the charge, whose duty it shall be to assist the class-stewards in securing the pastor's salary, and to receive and audit the steward's reports.

Estimating Committee.

13. In cases of circuits, the quarterly conference shall, at its last session for the year, appoint a finance committee, which committee shall meet at the time and place specified by the preacher appointed to the charge for the ensuing year, and make out an estimate of the regular expenses, and apportion the same, including the conference assessment for presiding elder's salary, among the different appointments according to their respective ability, and report the same to the quarterly conference for ratification. This committee shall also serve as an executive committee for the quarterly conference during the year in all matters of finance.

Apportionment to the Members.

14. As soon as convenient after each class has received its apportionment, on the call of the pastor, the official members shall meet and make a distribution of the apportionment, including the assessment for presiding elder, to the members severally, according to their ability, to be paid quarterly, monthly, or oftener; provided, however, that it shall be the privilege of any class to collect the amount apportioned to it by subscription or otherwise.

Place of Meeting.

15. The quarterly conference shall determine its places of meeting.

Appeals.

16. Any preacher dissatisfied with the decision of a quarterly conference shall, within thirty days after the quarterly conference, notify the secretary, in writing, of his intention to appeal, together with his reasons for so doing; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to take or send a certified copy of the proceedings, the notification, and reasons assigned, to the annual conference.

17. In all cases of appeal, whether to the quarterly or annual conference, or to the court of appeals, the course laid down in the chapter on "Appeals" is the proper course to be pursued.

Section VI.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Members.

1. The annual conference shall consist of all elders and licentiate preachers, who have been duly received, and one layman from each charge in the conference, who shall be elected by ballot, at the third or last session of the quarterly conference in the year, a majority of all the votes cast being necessary to a choice.

The delegate thus chosen shall not be one holding an annual-conference license as a minister,[1] nor one recommended to the annual conference for license to preach, and such delegate shall have all the rights and privileges of ministers in the annual conference except the right to vote upon the reception or expulsion of preachers, and the passing of preachers in the course of reading.

Devotions.

2. Suitable devotional exercises, consisting of scripture reading, singing, and prayer, shall be held at the opening and closing of the conference sessions.

Secretaries.

3. The conference shall elect one or more secretaries, as the case may require, who, in addition to discharging the regular duties of secretary, shall, immediately on the adjournment of the annual conference, transmit to the Publishing Agent at Dayton, Ohio, a true transcript of the footings of the conference chart.

Bishop Pro Tempore.

4. If no bishop should be present, it shall be the duty of the annual conference to elect a bishop *pro tem.*, whose official acts shall be valid.

Examinations.

5. All preachers shall report in person or by letter, and be examined respecting their deportment toward their

[1] Note.—It is also advised by the General Conference that wives of annual conference ministers be not chosen as lay delegates.

fellow-men, whether their conduct in life be blameless, and whether they employ as much time as practicable to promote the kingdom of God (according to Tit. 1: 7-9 and II. Tim. 2: 15), and if found delinquent they shall be admonished or advised, as the case may require. But should all admonition or advice fail, then the name of the delinquent person shall be erased from the roll of the conference.

Absentees.

6. Should any member of the annual conference absent himself from the session of conference three years in succession, without giving a satisfactory reason for so doing, his name may be erased from the roll of the conference.

Electioneering Forbidden.

7. No preacher or layman shall be permitted to electioneer favorably to his own election to any office or delegation in the Church; and should any one be found doing so, if a preacher, he shall be held accountable to the next annual conference of which he is a member. If a layman, he shall he held accountable to the class, to be dealt with, respectively, according to the judgment of said conference or class.

Authority of the Annual Conference.

8. An annual conference may adopt rules for its own government not in conflict with the Discipline of the Church.

Questions.

9. The following questions shall also be asked by the presiding officer:

(1) Have any of your preachers died during the last year?

(2) Who are candidates for the ministry?

(3) Are any to be ordained to the office of elder?

(4) What has been collected for contingent expenses and the salary of pastors?

(5) What has been done for missions?

(6) What has been done for Sabbath schools?

(7) Has reckoning been made with pastors?

(8) Who are the presiding elders?

(9) Where are the preachers stationed this year?

(10) Where shall our next conference be held?
(11) Is there anything else to be done?
(12) Is all that has been done entered upon record?

Section VII.

General Conference.

Members.

1. (See Constitution, Article I., Section 1.)

Conference Representation.

2. The annual conferences shall be represented in the General Conference according to the following ratios: All conferences having less than one thousand members shall be entitled to two delegates, one ministerial and one lay; one thousand and less than three thousand, two ministerial and two lay; three thousand and less than six thousand, three ministerial and three lay; six thousand and less than ten thousand, four ministerial and four lay; ten thousand and less than fifteen thousand, five ministerial and five lay; fifteen thousand and less than twenty thousand, six ministerial and six lay; and all over twenty thousand, seven ministerial and seven lay.

Bishop's Announcement.

3. The Board of Bishops shall as early as possible announce the number of delegates to which each conference shall be entitled, as appearing from the statistics of the annual conferences at the end of the third year of the quadrennial term.

Nomination of Delegates.

4. It shall be the duty of the ministerial members of each annual conference at the session next preceding the election for delegates to General Conference, apart from the lay delegates, to nominate by ballot three times the number of ministerial delegates to be elected. It shall also be the duty of the lay delegates, in separate convention, to nominate by ballot three times the number of lay delegates to be elected. In both cases it shall require a majority of all the ballots cast to effect a nomination. This provision shall not be construed as depriving mem-

bers of the right to vote, if desirous of doing so, for other ministers and laymen who are eligible.

Annual-Conference Tellers.

5. Each annual conference shall appoint a committee of three as a board of tellers, and three as alternates, to receive and publicly count the votes, and issue certificates of election to those receiving the highest number of votes. It shall be the duty of the board of tellers to meet before the month of November and appoint one of their number secretary; and to said secretary all returns of boards of election shall be made; and the said secretary shall retain under lock and key all such reports until the official count is made.

Lists of Nominees and Blanks.

6. The annual conference shall also furnish, through its recording secretary, to each preacher in charge of a field of labor a list of all the ministers and laymen nominated; and it shall be the duty of each presiding elder to have printed in convenient form, and deliver in due time to each pastor, printed tickets containing all the names nominated, for use in the election of delegates. He shall also furnish to each preacher in charge on his district blank bills of election, which shall be distributed by the preachers to their respective boards of election.

Boards of Election.

7. The leaders and stewards of each local church shall constitute a board of election, who shall, by the pastor, be furnished a copy of the list of persons nominated; and the election shall be held invariably in the month of November next preceding the sitting of the General Conference.

8. It shall be the duty of the board of election of each local church publicly to announce, at least one week before the election, a meeting of the members of said church, for purpose of casting their ballot for delegates to represent them in the General Conference.

Absent Voters.

9. Should any member be incapacitated by age, affliction, non-residence, or other unavoidable circumstances, and should any minister be absent on his charge, such persons may send their ballots containing the names of

their choice, with their own names signed on the back of their ballots; provided, that no votes shall be counted except those cast on the day appointed for such election.

Election Returns.

10. Each board of election shall immediately make up the bill of election, sign, enclose, and seal it, and transmit it to the secretary of the board of tellers appointed by the annual conference, stating what church, circuit, mission, or station their vote represents. They shall also keep a correct copy of the bill they send to the tellers; also a list of the names of all the members voting, and also the tickets used in voting, until after the adjournment of the General Conference, when they may be destroyed.

11. Pastors shall be required to see that forms for the election of delegates are properly filled out and the returns of their charges sent in; they shall be held amenable to the annual conference for the discharge of the same.

Canvassing and Publication of Returns.

12. The annual-conference board of tellers, after giving at least three days' notice of the time and place of canvassing the returns, shall make out a list of all persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; and should any two or more of the candidates have an equal number of votes, the tellers shall determine, by lot, which of them is elected. They shall also forward by the first of February the names of those elected to the editor of the *Religious Telescope* for publication. They shall also transmit to the Publishing Agent, at Dayton, Ohio, a complete list of all persons voted for and the number of votes cast for each, which record shall be furnished to the ensuing General Conference, and if one or more of those elected should be prevented from attending, by death, sickness, or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the tellers or secretary of the General Conference to notify the next highest on the bill to take his place, and so on, descending, if need be, to the last candidate. No bills of election received by the tellers after the first day of January shall be counted.

Contests.

13. In case of contest for the seat of any delegate re-

ported elected to the General Conference by the board of tellers of his conference, the contestor shall give notice to the contestee in writing forty days before the sitting of the General Conference, in which charges and specifications shall be plainly stated. Any person failing to give such notice shall forfeit his right to contest in the General Conference.

Location and Entertainment of the General Conference.

14. The arrangements for the place and entertainment of the General Conference, if not determined at its sessions, shall be referred, with full power to act, to the board of trustees and the Agent of the Printing Establishment.

15. Said board shall estimate the amount required for the expenses of the General Conference, including traveling expenses and boarding of delegates and bishops, and shall apportion the same among, and report the same to, the annual conferences early in the first year of the quadrennium next preceding the sitting of the General Conference; said apportionments shall be by each annual conference apportioned in annual assessments to each charge in the conference, and the pastors be required to collect and turn over the same to the conference treasurer at the close of the year, and the conference treasurer shall, as soon as the apportionment is all collected, send said amount to the General Church Treasurer at Dayton, Ohio.

16. This money shall be known as the General Conference Expense Fund, and shall be distributed among the delegates and bishops in proportion to their traveling expenses by the most direct route to and from the seat of the General Conference, and shall include their board and lodging during the sessions of the conference; provided, however, that if any conference shall fail to raise the full amount of its apportionment, said conference delegation shall receive from said fund in proportion to the amount raised by the conference.

Examination of Annual Conferences.

17. It shall be the duty of the General Conference to examine the administration of each annual conference, whether it has strictly observed the rules and preserved the moral and doctrinal principles of the Discipline in all its transactions.

Election of Officers.

18. In the election of all officers of the General Conference, a majority of all the votes shall be necessary to a choice.

Boards of Trustees.

19. If the board of trustees of any of our Church institutions shall, on account of removals, or otherwise, at any time not have the number of members required by the charter of such institutions to be selected from a particular State, said board shall be authorized to supply said deficiency by the selection of additional trustees.

SECTION VIII.

GENERAL CHURCH TREASURER.[1]

The General Conference shall elect a General Church Treasurer, who shall receive and disburse, on order, the funds of the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society, Church-Erection Society, General Sabbath-School Board, Board of Education, Church Trustees, General Conference Expense Fund, Union Biblical Seminary Fund, and other benevolent funds of the Church. Said treasurer shall give bond for the faithful performance of his duty, the bond to be fixed by the Board of Bishops and the salary by the General Conference.

SECTION IX.

OLD PEOPLE'S HOME.

1. Any conference or number of conferences, with the consent of the Board of Bishops, may unite in founding an Old People's Home, Orphanage, or Hospital.

2. The conference or conferences founding and supporting any of said institutions shall elect the board of trustees.

3. Said board of trustees shall be incorporated, and shall hold all property in trust for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

4. The board of trustees shall adopt such plans and rules as may be necessary for the management of said institution, provided such rules are in harmony with the Discipline of the Church.

5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Bishops to present the above interests to each annual conference coöperating with said institution.

[1] For filling vacancy, see General Conference proceedings of 1901 pages 473 and 545.

CHAPTER VI.

Ministry of the Church.

Section I.

EXHORTERS.

How Licensed.

1. Any person wishing to obtain license to exhort must obtain from the class of which he is a member, by a two-thirds vote of the members, at a meeting called for that purpose, a recommendation in writing, signed by the leader, or preacher in charge, to the quarterly conference of the circuit, station, or mission to which he belongs, which may license him, after an examination on the questions for applicants for quarterly-conference license to preach.

Exhorters' Duties.

2. Exhorters shall make appointments wherever acceptable to the people; read portions of the Holy Scriptures, exhorting therefrom; exhorting saints, that they with purpose of heart should cleave to the Lord, and sinners to flee from the wrath to come; and this they shall do as often as practicable.

Renewal of License.

3. The license of an exhorter is subject to renewal annually, at the discretion of the quarterly conference.

Section II.

QUARTERLY-CONFERENCE PREACHERS.

How Licensed.

1. Any person wishing to obtain license to preach, must obtain from the class of which he is a member, by a two-thirds vote of the members, at a meeting called for that purpose, a recommendation in writing, signed by

the leader or preacher, to the quarterly conference of the circuit, station, or mission to which he belongs; provided, however, that none shall receive license who have not passed the Bible Normal Union Course, or its fair equivalent, and expressed their purpose to make the ministry their life work, and who cannot give satisfactory evidence of their call, religious experience, soundness of doctrine, and attachment to the Church and its government. The person making application shall be examined by the quarterly conference, and the following questions shall be asked by the chairman:

Examination of Applicant.

2. (1) Do you believe our Confession of Faith as set forth in our Book of Discipline?

(2) Have you now peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ?

(3) What is your motive in desiring permission to preach the gospel?

(4) Are you satisfied with our Church government?

(5) Will you submit yourself to the counsel of your brethren?

(6) What is your knowledge of depravity, of redemption, of faith, of repentance, of justification, of regeneration, and of sanctification?

(7) What is your knowledge of the ordinary branches of an English or German education?

3. It shall be the privilege of the chairman to ask any other question or questions that he may deem necessary.

4. Persons divorced, except on scriptural grounds, shall not be granted license.

5. No person shall be granted license to preach the gospel, by either quarterly or annual conference, who uses tobacco in any form; and any minister in quarterly or annual conference relation who has promised to abstain from its use and shall afterward, by satisfactory evidence, be found guilty of indulging in the use of tobacco, shall have his license revoked by the quarterly conference.

6. When a preacher from another church comes to us with a certificate of good standing in the church in which he has held membership, and gives satisfaction to the quarterly conference concerning his agreement on the doctrines, discipline, government, and usages of our Church,

the quarterly conference may receive him, and give him the same standing which he held in the church from which he came, until the succeeding annual conference.

Course of Reading.

7. A quarterly-conference preacher is required to pursue the course of reading prescribed in our Book of Discipline, and to be examined annually by the presiding elder and preacher in charge at the fourth quarterly meeting.

[For exception to this article, see paragraph 7, on page 47.]

Renewal of License.

8. The license of a quarterly conference preacher is subject to renewal annually, at the discretion of the quarterly conference, provided, however, that when the course of study required has been taken, he shall be excused from further examination, and shall hold his license subject to the discretion of the quarterly conference.

Recommendation to Annual Conference.

9. After a quarterly-conference preacher has stood in that relation one or more conference years, the quarterly conference may recommend him to the annual conference, and if not received he shall sustain his former relation. The recommendation shall be signed by the secretary of the quarterly conference or the presiding elder.

Section III.

ANNUAL-CONFERENCE PREACHERS.

How Received.

1. Every person proposed as a preacher shall be examined by the annual conference, or a select committee thereof; and the following questions shall be asked him:

Preacher's Examination.

2. (1) Have you known God in Christ Jesus to be a sin-pardoning God?

(2) Have you now peace with God, and is the love of God shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Spirit?

(3) Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God,

and that therein is contained the only true way to our salvation?

(4) What foundation have you for such belief?

(5) Do you follow after holiness?

(6) What is your motive for desiring permission to preach the gospel?

(7) Do you believe that man, apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is fallen from original righteousness, and is not only entirely destitute of holiness, but is inclined to evil, and only evil, and that continually; and that except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of heaven?

(8) What is your knowledge of redemption, of faith, of repentance, justification, regeneration, and sanctification?

(9) Does your own salvation, and the salvation of your fellow mortals, lie nearer to your heart than all other things in the world?

(10) Will you subject yourself to the counsel of your brethren in the Lord?

(11) Are you satisfied with our Church government?

(12) Are you willing, as much as is in your power, to assist in upholding our itinerant plan?

(13) What have been your school advantages?

Licensing Women.

8. Not wishing to hinder any Christian who may be moved by the Holy Spirit to labor in the vineyard of the Lord for the salvation of souls, it is ordered that whenever any godly woman presents herself before the quarterly or annual conference as an applicant for authority to preach the gospel among us, she may be granted license, provided she complies with the usual conditions required of applicants for the ministry in our Church. And when she shall have passed the required examination before the regular committees, she may, after the usual probation, be ordained.

Qualifications of Applicants.

4. None can be admitted without having a recommendation from the quarterly conference, and then only to be received on probation; neither, except in extraordinary cases, can any one be admitted who has not com-

pleted a public-school course through the high-school grade, or the standard preparatory course in college, or its fair equivalent; such cases to be decided by a two-thirds vote of the annual conference. If the conference should, on examination, find that the candidate's abilities are insufficient to preach the gospel, it may refer him back to the quarterly conference for further instruction.

5. Persons divorced, except on scriptural grounds, shall not be granted license to preach.

6. No person shall be granted license to preach the gospel who uses tobacco in any form. The license of any preacher who uses tobacco, shall, upon proper evidence, be revoked by the annual conference.

Exemption from Examination.

7. Any person pursuing the quarterly- or annual-conference course of study who presents a certificate to the effect that he has completed branches or books contained in the courses in the Discipline, at any of our schools, or at schools whose standard of excellence is acceptable to the parties conducting the examination on behalf of the Church, said certificates shall preclude the necessity for further examination in the branches or books which have been completed as evidenced by said certificates.

An Expelled Preacher.

8. When a preacher or elder has been expelled, or withdraws from an annual conference, he shall not be received into another conference without the consent of the conference with which he was formerly connected.

Preacher's Transfer.

9. A preacher or elder who shall labor in the bounds of an annual conference other than the one to which he belongs, for two years, shall be required to obtain a transfer from the conference to which he belongs and to unite with the conference in whose bounds he labors, or to return to his own conference for work; provided, that presidents and professors of schools and colleges, students in our institutions of learning, and others engaged in general church work, shall be exempt from this requirement.

10. A preacher removing from one conference to another shall, when he applies to the latter for admission,

produce a transfer from the former, signed by the presiding officer or secretary.

Limit of Transfer.

11. A preacher or elder who receives a transfer is required to present said transfer to another conference, or to return it to the conference by which it was issued, within two years after its date. Otherwise the transfer shall be null and void, and it shall be published that said preacher is not longer connected with our Church as a minister.

Accountability of Transferred Preachers.

12. A preacher or elder receiving a transfer shall be a member of the quarterly conference in whose bounds he may reside, and shall also be accountable for his moral and official conduct to the annual conference granting said transfer, until his transfer be received by the conference to which he has been transferred.

Section IV.

Reception of Preachers from other Churches.

When a preacher from another church comes to us with a certificate of good standing in the church in which he has held membership, or with a transfer from a conference, presbytery, or synod, and gives satisfaction to the annual conference concerning his agreement on the doctrine, discipline, government, and usages of our Church, the conference may receive him. If he be an ordained elder, he must pass the examination required of candidates for elder's orders, but he may be exempt from the laying on of hands.

Section V.

Classification of the Ministry.

Classes.

1. The ministry of the Church shall be classified after the following order: First, as elders and licentiates; second, as itinerants (active, superannuated, or supernumerary) and local preachers.

Elders.

2. Elders are ministers who have been ordained in accordance with the provisions of Section VI. of this chapter.

Licentiates.

3. Licentiates are ministers who have received annual-conference license, but have not yet been ordained.

Itinerants.

4. To this class shall belong all annual-conference ministers who have been regularly received into the itinerancy. They may be active, superannuated, or supernumerary.

(1) *Active Itinerants* are such itinerants as have received work from the conference or Church.

(2) *Supernnuated Itinerants* are such itinerants as are from age or physical infirmities unable to pursue the regular work of the ministry.

(3) *Supernumerary Itinerants* are such as have been admitted to the itinerancy and are willing to work, but for whom the conference and Church, for the time being, are not able to find work, or who, by their own request, have been voted to such relation.

Local Preachers.

5. To this class shall belong such annual-conference preachers as are not admitted to the itinerancy.

Class—How Determined.

6. The annual conference shall determine to which of the foregoing classes each minister shall belong. Should an itinerant leave in an irregular way the work assigned him, he shall forfeit his standing as an itinerant.

Evangelists.

7. No preacher shall be authorized as an evangelist who does not actively engage in evangelistic work under the direction of the Board of Missions or annual conference to which he belongs. He shall report his work annually to the conference or Board of Missions.

Section VI.

ELDERS.

Licentiate's Probation.

1. After a probation of four years, a licentiate preacher may be presented to the annual conference for elder's orders; whereupon the bishop shall propose to the conference the following questions:

Questions Regarding a Candidate.

2. (1) Is he blameless touching the marriage state?

(2) Is his deportment in the social circle marked with watchful sobriety?

(3) Is he hospitable toward the afflicted and needy?

(4) Is he faithful in the public ministration of God's word, and diligent in reading and study?

(5) Is his household subject to rules of piety?

3. Should the above questions be answered in the affirmative, a committee of three or five elders shall be appointed, before whom the candidate shall appear and make answer to the following questions:

Committee Examination.

4. (1) Upon what foundation do you believe the Bible to be the word of God?

(2) How do you prove the fall of man by transgression?

(3) How do you prove the redemption of man by Jesus Christ?

(4) Do you believe in the deity of Jesus Christ?

(5) What foundation have you for such a belief?

(6) Do you believe in the Holy Ghost as presented in our Confession of Faith?

(7) Upon what evidence do you believe this?

(8) Do you believe in future everlasting punishment?

Duties of the Committee.

5. It shall be the right of the committee to propose any question touching the answers given, if said answers should be unsatisfactory. It shall also be their duty to make out, sign, and deliver to the conference a report of each case which may have been before them.

Election to Elders' Orders.

6. If the committee and conference find the candidate worthy, by a majority of the votes of the elders of conference he may be elected to ordination.

Special Provision.

7. When circumstances demand it, a licentiate may be presented to the conference for ordination at any time prior to a probation of four years, provided two-thirds of the elders present vote for the same.

Duties of an Elder.

8. It is the duty of an elder to preach the gospel, to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, to solemnize marriages, to perform all parts of divine service, to be an example to others by himself following the Saviour's example; and in a very special manner it shall be the duty of an elder to cherish and encourage young ministers, and always to be looking for those whom God has called to preach, and advise them to take up the cross and begin work without delay, or, in case it is required, to enter upon the fullest preparation, that the gathering of the gospel harvest may be faithfully performed.

Section VII.

PRESIDING ELDERS.

Election of Presiding Elders.

1. Presiding elders shall be elected by the annual conferences by ballot. A majority of the whole number of votes shall be necessary to a choice.

Support of Presiding Elders.

2. It shall be the duty of the several annual conferences to make such regulations for the support of presiding elders as they in their wisdom may think best calculated to accomplish the desired end.

Stationing Presiding Elders.

3. Presiding elders shall be stationed by the bishop and two elders or preachers elected by ballot from each presiding-elder district.

Duties of Presiding Elders.

4. The duties of a presiding elder are: To travel through the district appointed him, to preach as often as practicable, and to give special attention to promoting the interests of home missions, church erection, and education. He shall aim to have all assessments paid in full on his district.

5. He shall appoint the quarterly conferences and camp-meetings, and attend them when practicable. He shall hold quarterly conferences and administer the ordinances of God's house. He shall inquire whether preachers do their duty, and exhort them to maintain discipline and order, love and reverence, in the Church. He shall look after the organization of Young People's societies on his district, and make inquiry in the quarterly conferences as to the work of the societies, and keep a record of the number of members and the names of corresponding secretaries and their addresses, and report them to the corresponding secretary of the Branch Union. He may call extra sessions of the quarterly conference.

6. It shall be his duty to make strict inquiry whether each pastor has received the amount of salary due him, and in case of a deficiency, to make an earnest effort to secure the amount due.

7. The presiding elder shall earnestly endeavor to arouse the membership of the Church to a more uniform performance of their duties in the support of the ministry; and he shall from time to time suggest to the quarterly conference the most practicable means for meeting their financial obligations.

8. At the second quarterly conference of each year, the presiding elders shall examine the boards of trustees of church-houses and parsonages as to their having procured articles of incorporation according to the laws of the State and the regulations of the Church, and shall give such instructions as may be necessary.

9. Each presiding elder shall make a report, in writing, of his district, annually, to the annual conference.

Vacancies.

10. Should any district, through death, resignation, or otherwise, be without a presiding elder, information shall be immediately given to the bishop, who shall appoint an

elder to preside in said district until the ensuing annual conference.

Power to Exchange Pastors.

11. Should it become desirable to exchange the pastors of two charges on his district, the presiding elder may, in conjunction with two elders, preachers, exhorters, or leaders (one from each charge), change the said pastors.

Power to Dismiss Pastors.

12. The presiding elder may, in conjunction with the quarterly conference, dismiss a pastor from his charge for inefficiency or neglect of duty.

13. It shall be his duty to fill any vacancy in the pastorates on his district caused by death, resignation, or otherwise.

Section VIII.

BISHOPS.

Election of Bishops.

1. The General Conference shall elect bishops for the term of four years, who may, at the option of the conference, be reëlected.

Holding Conferences.

2. The bishops shall arrange the time of holding the several conferences, and attend and preside over them as the General Conference shall direct.

Salaries of Bishops.

3. The General Conference shall fix the salaries of the bishops. Apportionments to meet these salaries shall be made to the Church by the bishops. Apportionments thus made to the annual conferences and mission districts shall be apportioned to the various fields of labor according to the ability of each.

Residences of Bishops.

4. Each bishop shall reside within the bounds of the district to which he shall be assigned. The bishops shall be assigned to their respective districts by a committee of

three from each district, to be elected by the delegates from that district assembled for that purpose.

Duties of Bishops.

PRESIDING AT CONFERENCES.

5. It is the duty of bishops to preside over the annual and General conferences, and strictly examine into the moral and official character of the members of the annual conferences in the bounds of their districts, and see that all the laws of the Church are faithfully executed. It is also provided that the bishops shall have power to interchange with each other in the holding of conferences when they deem it necessary or expedient to do so.

STATIONING OF PREACHERS.

6. For stationing presiding elders, see "Stationing Presiding Elders," page 51. For stationing pastors, see "Stationing Committee," page 60.

ORDINATION OF PREACHERS.

7. It shall be the duty of the bishops to perform the rite of ordination at the annual conferences, and at such other times and places as circumstances may require, but only upon such persons as have passed the usual examination required of candidates for ordination, by a committee of three elders chosen for that purpose by one of the bishops.

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

8. The bishops shall hold annual meetings, in which they shall determine the time of holding the annual conferences; decide questions of discipline; adopt measures to secure uniformity in their administration; and when circumstances demand it, appoint fast and thanksgiving seasons, and counsel upon the general interests of the Church.

SPECIAL SESSIONS.

9. The bishop of any district shall reconvene any annual conference, when requested to do so by the majority of said conference.

ORGANIZING MISSION CONFERENCES.

10. In conjunction with the Board of Missions, a bishop shall have power to organize mission conferences.

11. The bishops shall confer with the presiding elders and pastors, to secure definite aims and wise methods for the development of the interests of home missions, foreign missions, and church erection, and shall devote as much of their time as practicable to visiting our mission stations and exploring new fields.

GENERAL FINANCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

12. The bishops shall devote attention to the general financial and educational interests of the Church.

REPORTS.

13. The bishops shall publish annually, in the columns of the *Religious Telescope* and *Fröhliche Botschafter*, reports of their respective districts, and also the amount of salary received from the several annual conferences in their charge.

VACANT DISTRICTS.

14. Should any district be deprived of a bishop by death or otherwise, the remaining bishops shall provide for the appointment and holding of the annual conferences composing such vacant district.

ANNUAL ADDRESS AND SERMON.

15. It shall be the duty of the bishops to see that a suitable address be delivered to the preachers present, and a sermon on the Sabbath at each annual conference.

THE FOREIGN FIELD.

16. The foreign field shall be under the supervision of the Board of Bishops and the Board of Missions.

Section IX.

TRIAL OF PREACHERS.

Quarterly-Conference Preachers.

1. When a quarterly-conference preacher or exhorter is accused of any misdemeanor, the leader or steward shall prosecute the case, and shall inquire into the nature of the complaints, and if there be grounds for charges he shall present to the accused a copy of the charges and notify him to choose a committeeman, and the prosecutor shall choose a second committeeman; these two a third; and this committee shall try the case, the preacher in charge being chairman.

2. If the accused refuse, or neglect, or fail, or be unable to choose a committeeman after being properly notified, the quarterly conference shall choose a first and second person, and these two a third, and this committee shall hear the case and decide. If the accused is found guilty, he shall be silenced; provided, however, that either party shall have the right of appeal to the next quarterly conference for a new trial.

Annual-Conference Preachers.

3. When a preacher, elder, or bishop is reported guilty of immorality, trespass, imprudent conduct, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church, the preacher to whom it is known shall take with him another preacher, exhorter, or leader, and examine into the charge; but as the apostle says (I. Tim. 5:19), "against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses." If it should appear that said reports are well founded, the examiners shall prefer charges against the accused; if not, they shall report to the next quarterly conference of which the accused is a member that they found no cause of action. If charges are preferred and no one be found willing to prosecute the case, then the said quarterly conferences shall appoint a prosecutor, whose duty it shall be to notify the accused, in writing, of all the charges preferred against him. He shall also notify him to choose an elder as his committeeman, the prosecutor choosing an elder as his committeeman, in behalf of the Church, and they two a third elder or preacher, before which committee the case shall be

tried. The prosecutor shall also notify the presiding elder of the district within whose bounds said cause of accusation occurred; and it shall be the duty of the presiding elder to appoint the time and place of trial, giving not less than twenty nor more than forty days' notice, to the parties concerned, of said trial; and he shall also act as chairman in the case. Should a majority of the committee be satisfied that the accusation is sustained, they shall require him to hold his peace until the annual conference, where he shall be accountable, and it shall be the duty of the committee to transmit in writing the entire proceedings of said trial to the annual conference, where the accused shall have a hearing before the conference, or a select committee thereof; and if the findings are sustained, he shall be suspended, expelled, or otherwise dealt with, as the conference may determine. But should the accused, after having been duly notified, refuse or neglect to comply in choosing his committeemen and notifying the prosecutor within fifteen days, the presiding elder shall suspend him until the annual conference, where, if he shall refuse to appear, he shall be dealt with according to the judgment of the conference; provided, however, if he be an elder, elders only shall vote in the case; and provided further, that if the committeemen chosen by the prosecutor and accused fail to agree as to the third member of the committee, then the quarterly conference shall appoint said committeeman. If the accused or prosecutor be a presiding elder or bishop, the presiding elder or bishop, as the case may be, next adjoining, shall act as chairman in the trial; provided, that in conferences having only one presiding elder, the bishop shall appoint a chairman to act in the case.

4. The foregoing relates only to annual-conference members.

Section X.

MARRIAGE—WHO MAY SOLEMNIZE.

All ordained ministers, and those that have obtained license from an annual conference, where the law of the State makes it the privilege of every regularly licensed minister to solemnize marriage, are authorized to solemnize marriage; but none having quarterly-conference license only are permitted to do so.

Section XI.

PREACHER'S DUTIES IN GENERAL.

1. The duties of preachers are, to preach Christ crucified; to form classes, and report the same to annual conferences; converse with the members on their spiritual condition; administer relief; strengthen and direct those that are afflicted or labor under temptations; animate the indolent; endeavor as much as possible to edify and instruct all in faith, in the Christian virtues, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ; visit the sick; and strive to enforce and confirm the doctrine they deliver by a well-ordered and exemplary life.

Directions to Preachers.

2. Let preachers heed the following directions:

(1) Be diligent. Never trifle away your time. Always be serious. Let your motto be "HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD." Avoid all vain conversation, conduct yourself prudently with women, and demean yourself in all respects as a true Christian. Be at all times averse to crediting evil reports. Believe evil of no one without good evidence. Put the best construction on everything.

(2) Speak evil of no one. Whatever may be your thoughts, keep them within your own breast until you can tell the person concerned what you think wrong in his conduct.

(3) Let your business be to save as many souls as possible. To this employment give yourself up wholly. Visit those who need it, and act in all things, not according to your own will, but as sons in the gospel; for as such it becomes your duty to employ your time in the manner prescribed, in preaching, and in visiting from house to house, in instruction and prayer, and in meditating on the Word of God. With these things be occupied until our Lord shall come.

Preachers Not to Trespass.

3. No preacher shall arbitrarily form a circuit, mission, or station within the limits of a circuit or presiding-elder district, or shall receive compensation for labor performed, without the consent of the preacher in charge; nor shall

any minister preaching in a different language accept a call from any regularly organized class or congregation which does not belong to his conference, without the consent of the annual conference to which the charge making the request may belong. Any preacher violating the provisions of this section shall be amenable to his quarterly or annual conference.

CHAPTER VII.

Itinerancy.

Section I.

itinerants.

How Constituted.

1. All who propose themselves without reserve, after having labored two years under the direction of the stationing committee or presiding elder, and have been received as such by a vote of two-thirds of the members of conference, shall be recognized as itinerants.

Withdrawing from the Itinerancy.

2. If any one who is thus received shall withdraw from active work without giving satisfaction to the conference of which he is a member, he shall not be entitled to any support from the funds belonging to said conference. And, furthermore, he shall not reënter the itinerancy without the consent of at least two-thirds of the conference. Yet supernumerary and superannuated relations shall be duly recognized as in accordance with this requirement, and may be secured to any brother having just claims thereto, by a vote of the conference.

Pastor's Resignation.

3. Should a pastor desire to leave the work assigned him, he must inform the presiding elder of his intention, in writing, and satisfy him that all his obligations to the charge have been satisfactorily adjusted; and should any one leave or neglect his charge, except it be through sickness or other unavoidable circumstances, he shall be accountable to the next annual conference.

Stationing Committee.

4. The bishop and presiding elders of the past and present years shall constitute a stationing committee, whose duty it shall be to supply all the circuits, stations, and

missions, as far as practicable, from the list of itinerants; provided, however, that where there is but one presiding elder on the committee, the conference may elect to the same another elder from the elders not asking for work from said committee.

5. The stationing committee shall have at least two meetings before its work is completed.

Appeal from Stationing Committee's Report.

6. If any of the preachers thus stationed, or any who may not receive an appointment, are dissatisfied, they shall have a right to appeal to the annual conference. If two-thirds grant the appeal, the decision shall be final. In case of an appeal from the decision of the stationing committee, no preacher stationed by said committee shall be changed, without his consent, to accommodate the preacher making such appeal. In no case shall preachers be permitted to exchange charges, except in the manner provided for in paragraph 11 of Section VII., of Chapter VI., page 52.

Report of Stationing Committee.

7. The report of the stationing committee shall be read at least six hours before the adjournment of conference.

Employment of Other Preachers.

8. Should there not be enough itinerants to supply all the circuits, stations, and missions, the remaining charges shall be supplied by the stationing committee or presiding elders.

Pastoral Charges.

9. A circuit or station shall not consist of any specific number of members or appointments; but when the annual conference judges it able to support a minister, it may be so recognized.

10. The pastor shall have full control of his pulpit, and no board of trustees shall permit any one to preach therein without his consent.

Section II.

DUTIES OF ITINERANTS.

1. It is the duty of an itinerant preacher to take the charge assigned him, and to move to it if practicable.

2. He shall visit regularly the appointments on his charge, preach to the people, and hold class-meetings whenever practicable, and whenever possible organize and maintain Young People's Christian societies.

Revision of Church Records.

3. He, in connection with the leader and steward or stewards of each class,—on stations, in connection with the official board,—shall at least one month before annual conference revise the church records. The duties of the committee on revision shall be essentially clerical, and the name of no member shall be erased from the records unless the disciplinary steps shall have been taken. (See Chapter IV., Section II., paragraph 18, page 24; Chapter IV., Section III., page 25; and Chapter V., Section I., paragraph 3, page 29.)

Annual Reorganization.

4. He, in connection with the leader and steward or stewards of each class,—on stations, in connection with the official board,—shall, at the time when the records are revised, appoint a steward or stewards, subject to the approval of the class. He shall hold a meeting of the class and see that a class-leader is elected.

Presiding at Trials.

5. He shall sit as president at the trial of members and see that a correct account of the same is kept.

Reports.

6. He shall render a strict account (as indicated in Form 15, page 170) of his work at each quarterly conference, where he is to be held accountable for neglect of duty.

Circulation of Literature.

7. It shall be his duty to use every laudable effort to circulate our books and Church periodicals, and to use due diligence to advance the interests of the Church Printing Establishment.

8. It shall be his duty to keep a list of the names of all the subscribers to our Church periodicals, and the time of subscribing, at the different appointments on his charge, and hand it over to his successor at the annual conference,

with the list of the appointments. He shall also report the number of subscribers to our periodicals on his charge at each quarterly conference, and be examined by the presiding elder and quarterly conference as to whether he performs his duty in circulating the periodicals of the Church among the people.

Dismissal of Appointments.

9. A preacher is not permitted to dismiss any appointment from his circuit or mission without the consent of the quarterly conference.

Records.

10. He shall procure a suitable book for a church record, in which he shall register all the appointments and classes on his circuit, station, or mission, in regular order, with the name of each member properly recorded in connection with his own class. He shall also make a record of all the baptisms, marriages, deaths, and proceedings of church trials, with the names of all the parties in each case. He shall report this record with the proceedings therein to the last quarterly conference of each year for approval or improvement. This book shall be the property of the quarterly conference, and shall be in addition to the regular class-books and circuit-books.

General Collections.

11. It shall be the duty of each preacher in charge of a field of labor to collect the annual amount apportioned to his charge for the support of the bishops and presiding elders, and also all other conference assessments. And should he fail to collect in full and not be able to give a satisfactory reason for such a failure, he shall be accountable to the annual conference.

Missionary Collections.

12. He shall hold a general missionary meeting at some convenient place on his work. He shall also preach a missionary sermon, and appoint a soliciting committee at every appointment, whose duty it shall be, in conjunction with himself, to canvass the church and community personally, and solicit funds for the Missionary Society. He shall also keep a list of the names of contributors, as

far as possible, and report the same to conference for publication with the minutes. He shall also establish monthly missionary prayer-meetings wherever practicable in the societies of his charge. He shall be held to strict account for the faithful performance of these duties.

Pastoral Visiting.

13. It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge of a station or circuit to give as much of his time as possible to visiting the families under his charge, and to pay strict attention to the young members under his care. This private work of visiting from house to house and exhorting the people is founded on these solemn words of the apostle: "I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house" (Acts 20:20).

Home Training of Children.

14. Because of the powerful and far-reaching influence of home life upon the young, it shall be the duty of each pastor to direct the attention of his people to the vital importance of family government and Christian nurture. He shall do this publicly and privately by directing attention to books and periodicals giving helpful instruction upon this subject, and also by presenting in his public ministrations the teaching of God's Word respecting the duty of parents to train up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Evangelistic Work.

15. It shall be the duty of all preachers, whether local or itinerant, to make every laudable effort to enlarge the borders of our Zion, to spread scriptural holiness, and to report to their respective annual conferences the number of new appointments established.

Section III.

PREACHERS' SALARIES.

1. The salary of a pastor shall be such amount as may be agreed upon between him and the quarterly conference of the field of labor to which he is sent; and said agree-

ment shall be a valid contract between the parties thereto. When a charge owns a parsonage, or rents a house for the pastor to live in, the charge shall have credit for the same by the pastor reporting as so much salary the amount the parsonage would rent for or the amount paid for the rented house.

2. A missionary employed by the Board of Missions shall receive such salary as in the judgment of the Board may be proper.

Superannuated Preachers.

3. Preachers sustaining a superannuated relation, and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers, shall be provided for by their respective annual conferences, as their wants may require.

Parsonage and Moving of Preacher.

4. It shall be the duty of a circuit or station, when a preacher is sent to it by an annual conference, to provide a house and move the preacher at its own expense.

CHAPTER VIII.

Deaconesses.

Section I.

DEACONESSES—IN LOCAL CHURCHES.

1. When any sister of suitable age, health, ability, culture, and piety, wishes to become a deaconess, she shall receive a recommendation to the quarterly conference from the class where she holds her membership. If, after examination by the presiding elder, or a committee appointed by him, she is approved by the quarterly conference, she shall receive license to perform the duties of a deaconess in the local church, said license subject to annual renewal.

2. Her duties shall be to teach in the Sunday school, the kindergarten, the Young People's Christian Union, and in the houses of the people such religious and otherwise useful knowledge as may be needed; to visit from house to house, reading, singing, teaching, exhorting, or comforting the people, as the case may require; to nurse, or otherwise minister to the sick and needy; to solicit funds or supplies, and distribute the same; all under the direction of the pastor, to whom she shall report as often as he may desire.

3. A uniform costume shall be selected by a committee appointed by the bishops, to distinguish and protect her.

4. The deaconess work is a high and holy calling for sacrificial service. Each local church must provide for any necessary expense attending this work, always, however, encouraging those who enter upon this service to do so for the love of Christ and humanity.

5. No one shall be required to make a perpetual vow in this work, but any one may retire from this office at pleasure, after giving the pastor the proper notice.

6. The deaconess shall be a member of the quarterly conference where she serves, and shall be responsible to it for her moral and official character.

7. If the deaconess is deficient in any of the common-school studies, she must pass examination in these, along with the following course of study. The presiding elder and pastor

shall conduct the examination in writing annually, or on part of the course quarterly, as the candidate may desire.

COURSE OF STUDY.

First Year.

The English Bible.
Synthetic Bible Studies—Gray.
With Christ in the School of Prayer—Murray.
Life of Christ—Stalker.
United Brethren Handbook—Shuey.
United Brethren Discipline.
Deaconesses—Wheeler.

Books to be Read—

Primer of Psychology—Ladd.
History of the United Brethren Church—Berger.
Revivals—Torrey.
Seven Laws of Teaching—Gregory.

Second Year.

The English Bible.
Outline Bible Studies—Dunning.
Revised Normal Lessons—Hurlbut.
Christian Character—Kilpatrick.
Theology—Weaver.
Life of St. Paul—Stalker.
Social Law of Service—Ely.

Books to be Read—

The Tongue of Fire—Arthur.
The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life—Smith.
Bible Geography—Hurlbut.
Manual of Nursing—Weeks.

The deaconess desirous to become a nurse should take the course of training for that purpose in a school connected with a good hospital.

8. On the completion of the course of study, and two years' practical work under the direction of a pastor, or an equivalent course in an approved training school, or literary school providing such courses, the deaconess shall be consecrated to this service by a bishop or presiding elder, and receive a permanent license.

Consecration of Deaconess.

Singing. "Must Jesus bear the cross alone?"
Scripture reading. Matt. 25.
Singing. "It may not be on the mountain height."
Invocation.
Address.
Prayer of consecration.
Singing. "Take my life and let it be."

SECTION II.

DEACONESS HOMES.

When a majority of the pastors of our Church in a city or conference wish to establish a deaconess home, they must first submit their plans to the Board of Bishops, at one of its annual meetings; and if the matter is approved by this board, it shall prepare rules and regulations according to which a deaconess home shall be founded and managed.

CHAPTER IX.

Courses of Study.

Section I.

QUARTERLY-CONFERENCE PREACHERS.

1. It shall be the duty of each person receiving a quarterly-conference license to preach to pursue the following course of study:

First Year.

English Grammar.
United Brethren Handbook—Shuey.
The Bible: The Sunday-School Text-Book—Holborn.
Leading Facts of American History—Montgomery.
Studies in the Four Gospels—Hurlbut.
United Brethren Discipline.
Sĕven Laws of Teaching—Gregory.

Books to be Read—

Life of Otterbein—Drury.
The Family—Bookwalter.

Second Year.

General History—Barnes.
Outline Bible Studies—Dunning.
Theological Compend—Steele's Binney.
The Confession of Faith—Weaver.
Bible History—Blaikie.
Handbook of Composition—Hart.

Books to be Read—

Life of Edwards—Davis.
Life of Weaver—Thompson.

Examinations.

2. The presiding elder, or a committee appointed by him, shall hold examinations each year in the books studied. A quarterly-conference licentiate is permitted to complete the entire course in one year. But should he fail to

complete the course within four years his license shall not be subject to renewal. He is required to complete the quarterly-conference course of study before being admitted to the annual conference.

Permanent License.

3. Any one completing the above course of study and passing satisfactory examinations in the same, may receive a license certifying to that fact, and not requiring annual renewal, so long as his teaching is conformable to the doctrines of Christ, as held by our Church, and his deportment is in harmony with the requirements of our Discipline.

Section II.

ANNUAL-CONFERENCE PREACHERS.

Examinations.

1. A licentiate preacher is to be examined in the subjoined course of study by the annual conference to which he belongs, and shall have the privilege of being examined after the completion of one or more studies during the interim of annual conference, and the examinations on the studies shall be completed, if possible, before the sitting of the conference. The examinations shall be in writing, and graded on a scale of 100, an average of 70 being required.

2. To assist and encourage licentiates in their studies, and also for the purpose of securing greater uniformity and efficiency in the examinations, the following plan shall be pursued: The faculty of Union Biblical Seminary shall each year prepare a list of from fifty to two hundred questions on each subject of study, as the subject may require, and shall accompany the same with such helpful suggestions as they may deem best. These questions shall be printed by the Publishing House, as are other official papers, and shall be distributed by the bishops at the annual conferences to the licentiates and the examining committees at the beginning of each year's study. The committee on course of study shall select, without the knowledge of the licentiates, ten or more of these questions on each subject for examination, the examination always being conducted in the presence of one or more of the examining committee. Each licentiate shall also present a written sermon

in connection with the examination of each year; and if any licentiate fails to appear before his committee he shall report the cause of his absence.

First Year.

Study of the Bible by Books, New Testament—Sell.
New Acts of Apostles—Pierson.
Art of Reading and Speaking—Fleming.
United Brethren Church History, Part I.—Berger.
Homiletics—The Preacher and His Sermon, Parts I. and II.—Etter.
Manual of Discipline—Kephart.
Theology, Chs. 1-22—J. Weaver.
Books to be Read—
With Christ in the School of Prayer—Murray.
Miracles of Missions—Pierson.
Life of Glossbrenner—Drury.

Second Year.

Theology, Chs. 23-44—J. Weaver.
Study of the Bible by Books, Old Testament—Sell.
Homiletics—Parts III., IV.—Etter.
United Brethren Church History, Parts II., III., IV.—Berger.
Extemporaneous Preaching—Buckley.
Jevon's Logic—Hill.
Exegetical Studies—Galatians and Gospel of John.
Books to be Read—
New Era—Strong.
Expansion—Strong.
Abraham; or the Obedience of Faith—Meyer.
Autobiography of Finney.

Third Year.

Systematic Theology, Vol. I.—Miley.
Psychology—Hill.
Pastoral Theology—Shedd.
Exegetical Studies—Exodus, Hebrews.
Recent Researches in Bible Lands—Hilprecht.
Church History—Fisher.
Books to be Read—
Mosiac Authorship of the Pentateuch—MacDill.

Social Aspects of Christianity—Ely.
The Spiritual Life—Murray.

Fourth Year.

Systematic Theology, Vol. II.—Miley.
Butler's Analogy—Malcolm.
Ethics—McKenzie.
New Testament Theology—Stevens.
Apologetics—Kephart.
Books to be Read—
Life of Müller—A. T. Pierson.
Manual of Christian Evidences—Fisher.
Life of A. J. Gordon—by his son.
Church History—Schaff.
Antiquities of the Jews—Josephus.
History of Christian Doctrine—Sheldon.
Grounds of Theistic and Christian Belief—Fisher.
History of the Reformation—Fisher.
Historical Geography of the Holy Land—Smith.
Biblical Hermeneutics—Terry.
Theological Encyclopedia and Methodology—Crooks and Hurst.
Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge—Schaff-Herzog.
Political Economy—Ely.
Great Missionaries of the Church—Creegan and Goodnow.

Section III.

GERMAN COURSE OF READING.

Quarterly-Conference Preachers.

FIRST YEAR.

Doctrines.—The presence of God, t e personality of God, the Trinity, the creation, the fall of man.

Books.—The Bible, Discipline of the United Brethren Church, "Christlich-Apostolisches Glaubens-Bekenntniss," by W. Nast, "Christologische Betrachtungen," by W. Nast.

SECOND YEAR.

Doctrines.—The corruption of mankind, repentance, faith, justification, regeneration, witness of the Spirit, sanctification, possibility of falling from grace.

Books.—The Bible, Church Discipline, Hare's "Rechtfertigung durch den Glauben," D'Aubigné's "Reformations-Geschichte," "Bekämpfung des Unglaubens," by Christlieb.

Annual-Conference Preachers.

FIRST YEAR.

Doctrines.—The being and attributes of God, the Trinity, the creation, the doctrine of the angels, the doctrine of mankind, man in the image of God, the fall and the corruption.

Books.—The Bible; Church Discipline; Sulzberger's "Glaubenslehre"—First Part; Luthardt's "Apologetische Vorträge"—First Part; Dr. Joseph Beck's "Grundriss der Empirischen Psychologie"; Kurtz's Text-Book on Sacred History; Berger's Church History of the United Brethren; Nippert's "Praktische Theologie"; Grammatik, Heise's "Leitfaden—Die Wortlehre"; written sermon on the Sabbath.

SECOND YEAR.

Doctrines.—The doctrines of Jesus Christ, doctrine of the personality and divinity of the Holy Ghost, doctrine of the salvation of man, conviction, repentance, faith, justification, regeneration, sanctification, possibility of falling from grace.

Books.—The Bible; Church Discipline; Sulzberger's "Glaubenslehre"—Second Part; Luthardt's "Apologetische Vorträge"—Second Part; Weber's "Einleitung in die Heiligen Schriften"; "Das Christliche Heilsleben," by F. F. Paulus; Bishop Hurst's Church History; Dittmar's "Welt-Geschichte"—First Part; Grammatik, Heise's "Leitfaden—Die Satzlehre"; written sermon on repentance and faith.

THIRD YEAR.

Doctrines.—The sacraments—baptism and the Lord's Supper, the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, the future general judgment, everlasting rewards, and everlasting punishment.

Books.—The Bible; Church Discipline; Sulzberger's "Glaubenslehre"—Third Part ; the Immortality of the Soul, by F. L. Nagler; D'Aubigné's "Reformations-Geschichte"; H. Dittmar's "Welt-Geschicte"—Second Part; Heise's

Grammatik—Wiederholung; W. Sommer's "Aufsatzlehre"; written sermon on baptism.

BOOKS RECOMMENDED.

Jellinghaus's "Das Völlige Heil," and C. H. Spurgeon's "Winke für Prediger," oder 23 Vorlesungen.

SECTION IV.

COMPLETING THE COURSE.

1. Each licentiate is expected to complete the prescribed course within four years, unless good reasons exist for delay.

2. Should any licentiate fail to complete the course within five years, he may be referred to his quarterly conference.

Seminary Graduates.

3. Any licentiate who has completed the full course of study in Union Biblical Seminary, and has passed the examinations entitling him to a diploma from that institution, may be excused from examinations in the annual-conference course of study.

SECTION V.

PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY.

We urge upon all who contemplate giving themselves to the gospel ministry the vital importance of completing a course of study in some one of our institutions of learning, and, in addition, a course in Union Biblical Seminary. In exceptional cases, wherein circumstances absolutely forbid such preparation, there should be the utmost diligence given to well-advised reading and study in order to successful work in the ministry. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

CHAPTER X.

Appeals.

Section I.

from the decision of a class.

Should any member be dissatisfied with the decision of a church or class, or committee of a church or class, an appeal may be had to the next quarterly conference by giving notice thereof to the preacher in charge, or the secretary of the trial, within thirty days after said trial, together with the reasons for such appeal; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to furnish the quarterly conference with a certified copy of the proceedings of the trial and of the notice of the appeal.

Section II.

from the decision of a quarterly conference.

Any member of a quarterly conference dissatisfied with the decision thereof, may appeal to the ensuing annual conference, within thirty days after the quarterly conference, by giving notice to the secretary, in writing, of his intention to appeal, together with his reasons for so doing; and it shall be the duty of the secretary to furnish a certified copy of the proceedings, the notification, and the reasons assigned, to the annual conference.

Section III.

court of appeals.

1. Any member of an annual conference, when dissatisfied with the decision thereof, shall have a right to appeal to a judicial court, which shall be constituted and governed as hereinafter stated.

2. Each annual conference, at the first session subse-

quent to the session of the General Conference, shall elect by ballot two members of the court, who shall hold office for four consecutive years.

3. In case of an appeal from an annual conference in form and manner hereinafter set forth, the presiding bishop of said conference shall, at such time and place as he may determine, call together seven of the members of the court most accessible to the conference from which the appeal is taken, who, thus called together, shall constitute an appellate court to hear and determine said appeal.

4. This court shall organize by electing a chairman and some competent person as secretary.

5. The secretary shall receive and hold all papers and records pertaining to said appeal, subject to the order of the chairman; keep a true record of all proceedings of said court, and certify the decision thereof to the annual conference from which the appeal is taken, and also to the appellant.

6. Five of these members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, and four must agree on a verdict. The court may affirm or reverse the finding and decision of the annual conference, or affirm in part and reverse in part; but it shall not reverse the same, nor remand the case for a new trial on account of errors plainly not affecting the result.

7. The decision of this court shall in all cases be final, except when the objections are taken on the ground that the proceedings were irregular in the application of law, and said objections are entered before the verdict of the court is announced. In case of appeal from the court under this clause, the appellant must give notice within thirty days to the secretary of the court, who shall send a copy of all proceedings in said case to the General Conference.

8. In case of an appeal from the decision of an annual conference, the appellant must give written notice to the secretary of said conference within thirty days after the adjournment thereof, setting forth both his intention to appeal and the reasons for so doing.

9. On receipt of a notice of appeal, the secretary of the conference shall immediately notify the presiding bishop, and, on notice from said bishop, transmit a copy of the proceedings of the conference in said case to said court.

10. The necessary expenses incurred in the assembling of

said court shall be paid by the appellant, if the appeal is not sustained; if the appeal is sustained, the annual conference in which the appeal is made shall pay the expenses, and the appellant shall, in all cases, at the time the notice of appeal is given, deposit with the secretary of said annual conference security for the payment of said expenses, in an amount fixed by said secretary.

CHAPTER XI.

Seceding Members.

SPECIAL ENACTMENT.

Persons representing themselves as members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and being insubordinate to the General Conference, and refusing to obey the order and discipline of the Church, as provided by the General Conference, shall be dealt with as follows:

1. In case a presiding elder shall be suspended, or expelled, or shall withdraw from the Church by joining another denomination, it shall be the duty of the presiding bishop of the district to appoint a successor to said presiding elder, and require him to take charge of the district forthwith.

2. If the offender be a pastor, it shall be the duty of the presiding elder of the district to appoint a successor, and require him to occupy said charge forthwith.

3. If the offender be a member of the quarterly conference, either minister or layman, he shall be declared by the presiding elder as having irregularly withdrawn from the Church, and his name shall be erased from the roll of the quarterly conference.

4. If the offender be a private member who has thus irregularly withdrawn from the Church, it shall be the duty of the pastor to report the fact to the congregation and correct the roll of church membership.

5. The foregoing regulations shall be considered as applying to all cases of insubordination to the rules and requirements of the Discipline of the Church; provided, that if any person or persons thus affiliating, or thus insubordinate, shall, within a reasonable time, manifest a desire to return to their former allegiance to the Church, they may, with the consent of the local church, be reinstated.

PART III.

MORAL REFORM.

CHAPTER XII.

SPECIAL RULES.

SECTION I.

TEMPERANCE.

Intoxicating Drinks.

1. THE distilling, vending, and using of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, the renting and leasing of property to be used for the manufacture or sale of such drinks, also the signing of petitions for granting license, or the entering as bondsmen for persons engaged in the traffic in intoxicating drinks, are strictly prohibited; and should any of our members be found guilty in these respects, they shall be dealt with as in the case of other immoralities; this rule, however, shall not be so construed as to prevent druggists and others from the vending or using of alcohol for medicinal or mechanical purposes.

Temperance Day.

2. The fourth Sabbath in October of each year shall be observed as Temperance Day.

Tobacco.

3. We believe that the use of tobacco in any form is injurious to health, and a needless waste of money which could and should be otherwise applied; and we kindly advise all our members to abstain from its use.

SECTION II.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Sabbath day being ordained of God as a day of physical rest and of spiritual improvement, and as the perpetuity of our civil and religious institutions demands

its proper observance, therefore, the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, in view of the growing tendency, as seen in the open saloon, the beer-garden, the base-ball games, the social dance, excursion trains, the increasingly prevalent apathy of the masses to an attendance upon the public service of the church, and a disregard of God's command to "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," earnestly counsels all its members to abstain from everything that does not contribute in the highest degree to their spiritual growth; and we advise our ministers and general officers of the Church to be examples to the flock over which the Holy Ghost hath made them overseers.

Section III.

SLAVERY.

All slavery, in every sense of the word, is totally prohibited, and shall in no way be tolerated in our Church.[1]

Section IV.

SECRET COMBINATIONS.

1. A secret combination is a secret league or confederation of persons holding principles and laws at variance with the Word of God and injurious to Christian character, as evidenced in individual life, and infringing upon the natural, social, political, or religious rights of those outside its pale.

2. Any member or minister of our Church found in connection with such combination shall be dealt with as in other cases of disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church; in case of members, as found in Chapter IV., Section III., page 25, and in case of ministers, as found in Chapter VI., Section IX., page 56.

Section V.

OATHS.

We believe that the mode of testifying to the truth when required so to do in a legal form, by way of affirmation, is on us solemnly, conscientiously, and fully binding, before God, to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

[1] This law, in its essential character, was adopted by the General Conference in 1821, Bishops Newcomer and Zeller presiding.

Section VI.

WAR.

We most positively record our disapproval of engaging in voluntary national aggressive warfare; yet we recognize the rightful authority of the civil government, and hold it responsible for the preservation and defense of our national compact, against treason or invasion by any belligerent force, and we believe it to be entirely consistent with the spirit of Christianity to bear arms when called upon to do so by the properly constituted authorities of our government for its preservation and defense.

Section VII.

THE MARRIAGE RELATION.

1. We believe that the marriage relation is of divine authority; that it is the mutual union of one man and one woman; that the obligation is most sacred, and morally binding as long as both shall live, and therefore cannot be dissolved at will, nor should it be by a decree of a civil tribunal, except on evidence that one party is guilty of adultery.

2. On positive evidence of such guilt the innocent party is freed from further matrimonial obligations and justly entitled to a divorce.

3. We deny the right of marriage by virtue of a divorce obtained for other causes than adultery on the part of the person from whom the divorce is obtained, and therefore the right of the guilty party to remarry.

4. Any person sustaining a married relation contrary to that above recognized as justifiable shall be ineligible to the office of the ministry in this Church.

5. No minister of this Church shall knowingly solemnize the marriage of two persons, either of whom has been divorced for other than the above justifiable cause, and shall be amenable to the Church for disobedience to the order thereof.

PART IV.

PROPERTY.

CHAPTER XIII.

CHURCH-HOUSES AND PARSONAGES.

Appointing Trustees.

1. WHENEVER it is contemplated to purchase or build a church-house or parsonage, it shall be the duty of any member to make it known to the quarterly conference of the circuit or station to which he belongs. The quarterly conference shall then appoint a judicious board of trustees of not less than three persons, or as the law of the State may require; provided, however, that at least a majority of said board shall be members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. The trustees shall hold their office during the pleasure of the quarterly conference; and if any member of the board shall absent himself from the meetings of the board for one year, without good and sufficient cause, his seat may be declared vacant, and another elected to fill the vacancy.

Vacancies.

2. When vacancies occur in a board of trustees it shall be the duty of the quarterly conference to appoint suitable persons to fill such vacancies, and to see that the records of the county wherein such board may reside shall correspond with the facts in the case, according as the law of the State may require, after such vacancies have been filled.

Duties of Trustees.

3. The trustees shall meet annually, or oftener if need be, and shall elect from their number the following officers; namely, a president, secretary, and treasurer. Meetings may be called by the president or by two other members of the board.

4. The secretary shall keep a correct record of all business transactions of the board in a book provided for that

purpose, which shall at all times be open for the inspection of the official board and the quarterly conference, as well as of the board of trustees.

5. The treasurer shall receive all funds of the board for church-house, cemetery, or parsonage purposes, and pay out the same under the direction of the board, on regularly drawn orders signed by the president and secretary, and report the financial condition at their several meetings, and to the quarterly conference at least once each year.

6. No board of trustees shall begin the building of a church-house or parsonage without first submitting their plans and estimates of lot, or lots, and building, to the official board or quarterly conference for consideration, approval, and directions. Nor shall they proceed to buy or build without first procuring an incorporation of their board, such as the State requires, nor without securing and recording a warranty deed, prepared by the Church-Erection Society, to themselves and their successors in office for the real estate which they purchase, nor until they have the necessary means either in hand or sufficiently assured, thus securing harmony of action and avoiding the encumbering of our houses of worship and parsonages with embarrassing debts.

7. It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to take charge of all the church property, employ janitors, furnish light and fuel, keep the property insured, and look carefully after other wants from time to time.

8. For the raising of funds for extraordinary expenses, such as building churches, or making extensive repairs, or paying large debts, the trustees may devise such measures as may be deemed best, and report the same to the official board or quarterly conference for approval and coöperation.

Sale and Rent of Church-Houses and Parsonages.

9. The quarterly conference may authorize a board of trustees to lease, rent, or sell church or parsonage property within its jurisdiction; provided, however, that said proceeds shall be used in purchasing, repairing, or building new church or parsonage property within its bounds, except the interest or rents accruing from parsonage property, which may be applied to pay rent on the house occupied by the pastor. Provided further, that no church-house

shall be sold that would result in the discontinuation or disorganization of a class, without the consent of the annual conference within the bounds of which said property is located.

Conditions of Mortgages and Liens.

10. No board of trustees, annual or quarterly conference, or members of any local church, shall have power to mortgage or to place a lien of any kind on real estate of the United Brethren in Christ, except for the purchase of such real estate, or the erection of necessary buildings, or for repairing, or otherwise improving the same.

Abandoned Church-Houses.

11. When a house of worship outside of the jurisdiction of any quarterly conference ceases to be used by our own people for preaching or other religious purposes, it shall be the duty of the presiding elder of the district in which such house is located to report to the annual conference, which body shall have power to appoint a board of trustees, who shall rent, lease, or sell such house of worship, as they deem advisable, and report their proceedings to the annual conference, which body shall have power to use the proceeds to pay debts on other houses of worship, build new houses, or turn the money into the funds of the Church-Erection Society, as may seem proper, at its own discretion; provided, that in no case shall a church-house and its premises be sold without the consent of the annual conference within whose bounds it is located.

Abandoned Parsonages.

12. Should any parsonage be permanently abandoned as such, the presiding elder of the district in which such parsonage is located shall report the same to the annual conference, which body shall have power to appoint a board of trustees, who shall rent or sell such parsonage, and pay over the proceeds to the annual conference, which body shall expend the same in paying debts on other parsonages, or in building new ones within its borders.

Transfer of Churches.

13. When a lot is deeded to an English United Brethren church, or to a German United Brethren church, and one or the other ceases to exist in an organized form, by deaths, removals, expulsions, or otherwise, or when a

majority of the members of said church shall decide to change either from the German to the English, or *vice versa*, then the church remaining shall have full right to make such improvements or repairs on said lot as may be desirable for the purposes of worship, and shall be entitled to peaceable possession.

Division of Interest.

14. In cases where fields of labor having parsonages upon them are divided, the disposition of said parsonages shall be submitted to a board of arbiters, consisting of three members of the Church, one to be chosen by each quarterly conference, and the third by these two, to whom the whole matter shall be referred, their decision of the case being final. In cases where more than two quarterly conferences are interested, the same plan shall be pursued. In case this plan fail, the quarterly conferences shall instruct the presiding elder to appoint a committee of three persons, all members of our Church, but none of them residents or members of either of the fields affected, and their decision shall be final.

Real Estate.

15. Real estate held for church or parsonage purposes shall be subject to the same regulations as houses of worship and parsonages.

Conference or District Property.

16. Where there is no provision by the laws of the State for the incorporation of religious organizations, and there is property that belongs to a district or conference, such as parsonages for the use of bishops or presiding elders, a conference or conferences may elect a board of trustees, who shall be members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and reside within the district or conference, who shall have the right to receive deeds to property and power to lease, rent, or sell the same.

17. Any quarterly conference that has appointed trustees for a bishop's parsonage shall fill all vacancies under the direction of the coöperating conferences.

Church Plans.

18. The Church-Erection Society shall provide plans and specifications for church houses, which shall be supplied to trustees who apply, at cost.

CHAPTER XIV.

Board of Church Trustees.

Section 1. *Be it ordained by the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ*, That there shall be located in Dayton, Ohio, an incorporated Board of Trustees for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, consisting of twelve members, a majority of whom shall be citizens of Ohio, elected by the General Conference of said Church for a term of four years, or until their successors are so elected. Said board shall be known as "The Trustees of the United Brethren in Christ."

Sec. 2. The organization of this board shall be effected by the election of a president, secretary, and treasurer. It shall meet on the call of the president annually, or whenever the president and secretary may determine. The board may elect an executive committee with authority to transact any necessary business in the interim of the board's sessions, subject to the approval of the board.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the board to receive, hold in trust, or apply, for the benefit of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, any and all funds, donations, grants, and bequests that may be given, directed, or conveyed to such board or Church as such, for any benevolent purpose whatever. All such funds and the proceeds thereof shall be applied in harmony with the specified purpose of the donors, or, in the absence of such specifications, as the board may determine.

Sec. 4. The board shall report quadrennially to the General Conference of said Church all funds and property received for the Church and the disposition made of the same, and shall be answerable to, and under the direction of, said General Conference.

Sec. 5. The board, at its first regular meeting of each quadrennium, shall organize by electing a president, secretary, and treasury.

PART V.

INSTITUTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING.

CHAPTER XV.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

FOR the benefit of the rising generation and the upbuilding of the church of Christ, Sabbath schools shall be organized wherever practicable. They shall be organized and conducted in harmony with the provisions following in this chapter.

The general interests of the Sabbath-school work of the Church shall be committed to a Sabbath-school board, consisting of five members, who shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of four years, with the editor of the English Sabbath-school literature and general secretary as members *ex officio*. Three of the five members to be elected shall be residents of the State of Ohio. This board shall be governed by the following constitution:

SECTION I.

CONSTITUTION OF GENERAL SABBATH-SCHOOL BOARD.

Article I.

NAME.

This organization shall be known as "The General Sabbath-School Board of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ."

Article II.

OBJECT.

The object of this board shall be to promote the multiplication, growth, and efficiency of Sabbath schools in connection with our Church and elsewhere, for the glory of God and the saving and blessing of mankind.

Article III.

ORGANIZATION.

The board shall be convened by the call of the retiring secretary, within one month after its election, and shall organize by electing from its own number a president, a recording secretary, and a treasurer.

Article IV.

MEETINGS.

The board shall meet annually in the month of April or May, on such day or days as it may determine. Other meetings may be held on the call of the president and secretary. The members present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article V.

DUTIES AND POWERS.

1. It shall be the duty of this board to take general charge and oversight of the Sabbath-school interests of the Church, and in carrying forward its work it may take such action as in its judgment the interests committed to it may demand, provided that nothing shall be done out of harmony with the Discipline of the Church.

2. The board shall apportion to the annual conferences an amount equal to three cents per member, for the whole Church, which amount shall be apportioned by the board to the several annual conferences according to their ability.

3. The board shall make provision for the general observance of Children's Day on the first Sunday in June, and shall receive the free-will offerings made on that day.

4. The board shall have full authority to fill vacancies in its membership between the sittings of the General Conference, and shall make a quadrennial report to the General Conference.

5. A committee shall be appointed annually which shall audit the treasurer's accounts.

6. The board may appoint each year a local committee of three members, at least two of whom shall be members of the board, to act in the intervals between its meetings; but this committee shall not transact new business.

7. The board shall define fully the work and duties of the general secretary and provide for his salary.

Article VI.

USE OF FUNDS.

The funds of this board shall be used to assist in establishing and maintaining Sabbath schools in home and foreign fields, except that a sufficient sum shall be reserved to pay the salary of the general secretary.

Article VII.

APPROPRIATIONS.

1. The assistance of this board in furnishing supplies shall be rendered only to Sabbath schools organized and conducted in harmony with the disciplinary provisions of the United Brethren Church, or to those giving satisfactory evidence that they will soon become such.

2. All applications for assistance shall be made through the secretary, and shall be considered by a committee of two members appointed by the board; and no appropriation shall be made without the approval of said committee being first obtained. Payment for such supplies shall be made only upon order of the president and secretary as herein specified.

Article VIII.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The president shall have the operations of the board under his care; he shall preside at its meetings, make such recommendations as he may consider proper, and call especial meetings of the board when in his judgment, and that of the secretary, it is necessary. He shall sign all orders issued on the treasurer for funds appropriated by the board.

2. The secretary shall issue the calls for the meetings of the board, keep a correct record of its business transactions in a book provided for the purpose, and certify all orders issued on the treasurer.

3. The treasurer shall have in charge, and hold in trust, the funds of the board. He shall pay such orders as are properly certified by the president and secretary. He shall report annually, or oftener if desired. His annual report shall be audited by a committee of the board.

Section II.

ANNUAL-CONFERENCE RELATIONS AND DUTIES.

Secretary and Treasurer.

1. Each conference shall annually elect one person who shall be Sabbath-school secretary and treasurer, who shall be an advisory member of the General Sabbath-School Board, and whose duty it shall be, to give diligent attention to all the interests of this board before the conference; to receive and transmit the funds for this board to the treasurer thereof; to be faithful in correspondence with the secretary of this board; to hold at a convenient time during the conference session a Sabbath-school anniversary for the purpose of advancing the Sabbath-school cause.

Pastor's Duties.

2. The pastor shall have general supervision of all the Sabbath schools on his charge. It shall be his duty to be present at all sessions of the Sabbath school as far as practicable; to preside at all business meetings when present, and at all meetings for the organization of Sabbath schools. He shall organize a Sabbath school at each appointment on his charge, where there is not one already; he shall preach on the subject at each appointment at least once a year; he shall report to his conference the number of schools, the number of officers and teachers employed, the number of scholars enrolled, the number of conversions among the scholars, the number of schools continuing through the year, and the amount of money collected for the use of schools, for the general fund, for missions, and for any other purpose.

Section III.

ORGANIZATION OF SABBATH SCHOOLS.

1. The pastor shall pursue the following plan in organizing a new school at any one of his appointments, or in reorganizing a school which has not adopted the constitution hereinafter provided. The pastor shall announce a meeting for the purpose, and he shall act as chairman. The pastor, the class-leaders, and the stewards shall constitute a committee to present the names of two suitable persons for superintendent and two suitable persons for

assistant superintendent. The election shall be by ballot, and enrolled members of the school over twelve years of age shall have the privilege of voting. The nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. The officers necessary shall be elected as the pastor, superintendent, and school may determine. It is provided, however, that on stations where it shall be thought best by the pastor, the quarterly conference may elect the superintendent.

Term of Office.

2. The superintendent and other general officers of the school shall hold their respective offices one year, or until their successors shall have been appointed in the manner prescribed in the constitution.

Superintendent's Duties.

3. The superintendent shall render to each quarterly conference an account of the condition of the school, stating also whether he is prompt in opening and orderly in his management of the same, and at the close of his term he shall see that a successor is selected after the manner prescribed.

Dismissal of Superintendent.

4. The quarterly conference shall have power to remove from office a superintendent for immoral conduct, heresy, or insubordination.

Section IV.

SABBATH SCHOOLS AND THE MISSIONARY WORK.

Each of our Sabbath schools is hereby constituted an auxiliary to the branch missionary society within whose limits it is located; and the superintendent is expected to take a collection at least once each quarter for the cause of missions, and report the amount to the pastor. Any member of the Sabbath school may become a life member of the auxiliary by the payment of three dollars, and shall be entitled to a certificate of life membership.

Section V.

CONSTITUTION FOR A SABBATH SCHOOL.

All Sabbath schools of the Church shall be governed by the following constitution; provided, that any school may have the privilege of enacting such by-laws for its better regulation as will not conflict with the constitution.

Article I.

This school shall be known as the United Brethren Sabbath School of ——.

Article II.

The object of the school shall be to gather in all, both old and young, as far as possible, for instruction in, and the study of the Bible, and to promote the worship of God, and to secure the salvation of precious souls.

Article III.

Section 1. The officers shall be the pastor, a superintendent, a secretary, a treasurer, a librarian, and, when desired by the school, a chorister and organist. The duties of these officers shall be such as usually pertain to such offices; and whenever it is generally deemed necessary for the interests of the school, an assistant may be elected in each of these offices; all of whom shall be subject in their official duties to their superior officers, except in the absence of such superiors.

Sec. 2. There shall also be an executive committee of three or five, chosen by the school. The pastor and superintendent shall be members *ex officio;* and a majority shall be members of the United Brethren church at ——, whose duty it shall be to select and order a suitable amount of our own literature and helps for the school from time to time, and look after the general interests of the school. The committee shall have power to declare the office of secretary, treasurer, librarian, chorister, or organist vacant for inefficiency or willful absence.

Sec. 3. The superintendent, when at all possible, shall be a member of the United Brethren Church, in good and regular standing.

Sec. 4. When a superintendent is to be chosen, if not elected by the quarterly conference, as provided for in

Section III., paragraph 1, page 90, the quarterly conference or official board shall nominate by ballot at least two suitable persons for superintendent, and the one receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected; provided, that the election shall be by ballot, and only enrolled members of the school above twelve years of age shall be allowed to vote. The secretary, treasurer, librarian, chorister, organist, and any other necessary officers shall be elected by the school, also by ballot. The teachers shall be appointed by the superintendent, with the approval of the pastor.

SEC. 5. The pastor of the church shall preside at each annual election, whenever practicable, and the superintendent or pastor shall preside at all special elections.

Article IV.

Vacancies for unexpired terms shall be filled in the manner and form as above provided for annual reorganization.

Article V.

The place of meeting for the Sabbath school shall be the usual place of meeting for the United Brethren church services, and at such hours of the day as shall not interfere with the other church services.

CHAPTER XVI.

Young People's Christian Union.

Section I.

ORGANIZATION.

1. The Young People's Christian Union of the United Brethren in Christ shall consist of the Young People's societies organized as provided in its constitution. It shall be under the direction of an executive council.

2. The executive council shall consist of seven members, including the president and corresponding secretary of the Young People's Christian Union. Of the five members to be elected, three shall be chosen by the General Conference and two by the Young People's Christian Union. The executive council shall make a quadrennial report to the General Conference.

3. The president of the local Young People's society, and the superintendents of the Intermediate and Junior societies, shall be members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and shall be members of the quarterly conference of the charge to which the societies belong, and shall make a written report to each session of the quarterly conference.

4. The organ of the Young People's Christian Union shall be the *Watchword*, published under the direction of the trustees and Agent of the Publishing House, the editor of which shall be chosen by the General Conference. This paper shall be devoted to the work of the Young People's Christian Union. In directing the plan and policy of this paper the executive council shall advise and assist. The editor may serve as corresponding secretary of the Young People's Christian Union, subject to the action of the union.

SECTION II.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

This organization shall be called "The Young People's Christian Union of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ."

Article II.

OBJECT.

The object of this union shall be to unite the young people's Christian societies of the entire Church, of whatever name, for mutual helpfulness, for stimulating Church loyalty and an intelligent interest in the various Church enterprises, and for the organization and extension of young people's Christian societies within the Church.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP.

Any young people's Christian society of whatever name, connected with any congregation of the United Brethren in Christ, may become a member of this union upon the following conditions:

1. That it be enrolled at the office of this union, either directly or through the conference branch.

2. That it adopt the following articles as part of its constitution:

(*a*) The article on "Object" shall include: "It shall be the object of this society to promote an earnest Christian life among its members, to increase their mutual acquaintance, to make them more useful in the service of God, to promote loyalty to the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, to study its life and interests, and to seek in every proper way to assist the growth of both the local church and the denomination at large, as our particular part of God's Zion."

(*b*) As a separate clause or article: "This society shall at no time adopt any rule or practice contrary to the Discipline and usages of the United Brethren Church."

(*c*) As a separate clause: "This society shall be auxiliary to the —— Conference Branch of the Young

People's Christian Union of the United Brethren in Christ."

Article IV.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of the union shall consist of a president, vice-president for each bishop's district, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, and an executive council.

SEC. 2. The executive council shall consist of the president, corresponding secretary, and five other members.

SEC. 3. These officers, except three members of the executive council to be chosen by the General Conference, shall be elected at the regular meeting of the union, and shall serve until their successors are duly elected. This election shall be by ballot, upon the recommendation of a nominating committee, which shall report twice the number of names necessary for each office.

SEC. 4. The executive council shall have power to fill vacancies occurring during the intervals of the meetings of the union.

Article V.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The president, recording secretary, and treasurer shall perform the duties usually devolving upon such officers.

SEC. 2. In addition to his ordinary duties the vice-president living in each district shall be the organizer for that district, and shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the executive council.

SEC. 3. The corresponding secretary shall keep a list of all the branches and of all the Young People's societies in the Church, with the name of the president and corresponding secretary of each. He shall conduct all correspondence, give notice of all meetings of the union and of the executive council, collect any statistics that may be desired, and perform such other duties as may be required by the union or by the executive council.

SEC. 4. The treasurer shall pay out money only on the order of the union or the executive council, signed by the president and secretary.

SEC. 5. The executive council shall meet annually at such time and place as it may determine. It shall have

general control of the union, call meetings, prepare programs, provide for the expenses, labor to promote the organization of branches in all the annual conferences and of local societies throughout the Church, provide such literature for the societies as the union may decide or the council deem proper, and attend to such other matters as may be necessary during the intervals of the meetings of the union. It shall make reports of its transactions to the union.

Article VI.

CONFERENCE BRANCH UNIONS.

SECTION 1. The local societies of any conference shall constitute a branch of this union, to be known by the name of the conference.

SEC. 2. These branches shall be governed by the branch constitution provided by this union.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the conference branch to have a complete list of the societies in the conference, to report them to the corresponding secretary of this union, and to collect from each society an annual due of one dollar, of which seventy-five cents shall be paid to the treasurer of this union.

Article VII.

CONVENTIONS.

SECTION 1. The union shall hold biennial conventions, at such time and place as the executive council may determine, for the transaction of business and the discussion of topics relating to Christian work.

SEC. 2. These conventions shall be composed of all members of local societies and all United Brethren ministers attending the conventions of this union, and three duly accredited delegates from each conference branch.

SEC. 3. The business of the convention shall be of two kinds—deliberative and executive.

SEC. 4. Executive business shall consist of the following only:

(*a*) Changes in the constitution.
(*b*) Election of officers.
(*c*) Authorizing the collection and payment of money.

SEC. 5. Upon executive business all members may debate, but only the delegates from the conference branches may vote.

Article VIII.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended at any regular convention of the union by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present, notice having been given six hours in advance.

SECTION III.

JUNIOR SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

THIS organization shall be known as the Junior Young People's Society of ———————— United Brethren Church of ————————.

Article II.

OBJECT.

The object of this society shall be to promote in its members a pure and worthy character, to aid in the study of the Bible, and to cultivate the principles of loyal service to Christ.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. The membership shall be boys and girls from seven to fifteen years of age, who shall have been approved by the leaders, and elected by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

SEC. 2. All those who become members shall pledge[1] themselves to attend regularly the meetings of the society and to observe good order in them.

Article IV.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Society shall be a leader and an assistant leader (adults), a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

SEC. 2. The leaders shall be nominated by the Young People's Society of the Church, (or by the Teachers and Officers of the Sunday School where no Young People's Society exists,) and their nomination shall be approved by the pastor and the official board.

[1] This pledge should be understood to be taken by all members received into the society. Where a more formal pledge is desired, the following may be adopted:

JUNIOR SOCIETY PLEDGE.

Trusting in Jesus Christ to help me, I promise that I will strive to do whatever he would like to have me do; that I will pray and read the Bible, and keep the Sabbath day holy; and that just so far as I know how I will try to lead a good life; that I will be present at every meeting when not hindered by sickness or some other just cause; and that I will take some part in the meetings, especially the monthly recognition meetings.

NOTE.—There should be great care in having young children, who will innocently sign anything, take this pledge. The pledge should be clearly explained and wisely emphasized. To secure the coöperation of the parents the leaders should send to them a copy of the pledge, and also the following for the parents to sign:

PARENT'S ANSWER.

I have carefully read the accompanying pledge and cheerfully give my consent for ..... to sign it, and will do what I can to help ..... to faithfully keep it.

Parent's Name .....

Address .....

Article V.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The leader shall have general charge of the society and its work.

SEC. 2. The assistant leader shall aid the leader at his request, and care for all the funds received from the treasurer.

SEC. 3. The president shall preside at all business meetings, under the advice of the leader.

SEC. 4. The vice-president shall conduct business meetings in the absence of the president.

SEC. 5. The secretary shall keep a record of the names and attendance of members, and of the proceedings of all business meetings.

SEC. 6. The treasurer shall take the collections, enter the amount in a book provided for that purpose, and turn over the money to the assistant leader for safe keeping. A record shall also be kept of all expenditures as directed by the leader and society.

Article VI.

COMMITTEES.

There shall be five standing committees of five (or three, as may be desired) members each, as follows, the members in each (except the Executive Committee) to be proposed by the leaders and approved by the society:

1. *Membership.* To bring in those who may wish to become members, to introduce them to the leaders, and to help them to feel at home in the meetings of the society.

2. *Devotional.* To help the leader to arrange programs, provide music, to distribute Bibles, singing-books, tracts, etc., and to aid in every way which the leaders may direct to promote the interest of the meetings.

3. *Helping Hand.* To seek new scholars for the Sunday school, and to bring them in and introduce them to the superintendent, to visit members when sick or neglectful of the meetings, and to act as special aids to the leaders in securing a full attendance at the monthly recognition service.

4. *Temperance.* To canvass for signatures to the tem-

perance pledge[1] under the direction of the leaders, and to help in any other way to promote temperance work among boys and girls.

5. *Executive Committee.* The pastor, leaders, and the officers shall compose the executive committee, which shall have full control of the affairs of the society.

Article VII.

MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. A devotional meeting shall be held every week, the exercises of which shall consist of prayers, Scripture reading and study, singing, and testimony.

SEC. 2. Once a month the meeting shall be known as a Recognition Meeting. At some time during the exercises the pledge, if there is one, shall be recited in concert, and the roll called. The responses shall be considered a renewal of the pledge of the society. The name of any member who is absent without excuse from four consecutive Recognition Meetings shall be dropped from the roll of members.

SEC. 3. All meetings shall be in charge of the leaders. If there are those among the members capable of leading meetings, they may be chosen to do so.

SEC. 4. The pastor or leaders shall use a part of the hour of the weekly meeting, when deemed best, for special instructions in Bible truth, or for other profitable exercises.

Article VIII.

RELATIONSHIP.

This society shall be considered a department of the church with which it is connected. It shall also sustain a close and intimate relation to the Young People's society of the Church, with which the members of the Junior Society are expected to connect themselves when they have reached the age limit.

[1] *Temperance Pledge.*—I hereby promise, God helping me, to abstain from the use of tobacco in every form, from the use of wine, beer, and other intoxicating drinks, and from the use of all profane and unclean language.

CHAPTER XVII.

Christian Stewardship Commission.

Section 1. There shall be a Christian Stewardship Commission consisting of the secretaries of the Young People's Christian Union, the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society, of the Church-Erection Society, of the Sabbath-School Board, and of the Woman's Missionary Society.

Sec. 2. The duties of this commission shall be to study the subject of the stewardship of money, with a view to awakening and fostering a lively interest in the same by means of the columns of our Church papers, tracts, and the advocacy of the subject at public meetings.

PART VI.

Benevolent and Educational Institutions.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

This society shall be called the "Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ," and is organized for the purpose of aiding the annual conferences in extending their missionary labors throughout the country and into foreign and heathen lands.

Article II.

LIFE MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS.

The payment of ten dollars at one time shall constitute a life member, or fifty dollars at one time a life director. No certificate of life membership or life directorship shall be granted until the full amount is paid.

Article III.

OFFICERS.

The officers of this society shall consist of the bishops of the Church, who shall be officers *ex officio*, the senior bishop or president of the Board of Bishops being president, and the other bishops ranking as vice-presidents according to seniority; also a secretary and a treasurer, who shall be elected every four years by the General Conference. The General Conference shall also elect, every four years, nine directors, three of whom shall be laymen. These, with the above-named officers, shall constitute the board of directors. The number present at any regular or called meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article IV.

DUTIES OF PRESIDENT.

The president shall preside at all meetings of the board, and shall have power, in conjunction with the secretary, to call special meetings. In the absence of the president, one of the vice-presidents shall fill his place.

Article V.

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

The duties of the secretary shall chiefly be to secure funds for the mission treasury. He shall keep a correct record of all the proceedings of the society, conduct its correspondence, and devote himself exclusively to the interests of the society. He shall keep a record of all the life members, life directors, legacies, etc. He shall also make out and publish, under the direction of the board, an annual report of the whole missionary work; also a quadrennial report to the General Conference. His salary shall be determined by the General Conference.

Article VI.

DUTIES OF TREASURER.

The General Church Treasurer shall hold the funds of the society subject to the order of the board. His salary shall be determined by the General Conference.

Article VII.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The board of directors shall hold annual meetings; have power to appoint an executive committee, consisting of five persons, three of whom shall be members of the board; make by-laws to regulate its own business; appropriate money to defray incidental expenses; employ missionaries and agents; open new missions; make appropriations to mission conferences; employ laborers for mission districts; dissolve mission conferences; fill vacancies in its own body; in connection with the bishops or any one of them, ordain ministers to the office of elder; and have the use of one page, weekly, in the *Religious Telescope* in the interest of missions. The missionary secretary shall furnish the matter for said page, which shall be subject to the approval of the editor.

Article VIII.

CONFERENCE CONVENTIONS.

Wherever practicable it shall be the duty of each annual conference to provide for the holding of district conventions, at least once a year, in the interest of missions.

Article IX.

MISSION DISTRICTS.

A mission district shall consist of two or more fields of labor, outside the bounds of an annual conference. Its annual sessions shall be presided over by a bishop, or an elder appointed by the Board of Missions. At these meetings the boundaries of fields of labor shall be fixed, the character of members examined, and preachers may be received, examined, and passed on course of reading, and ordained. A presiding elder may be elected, if the Board of Missions so advise, and ministers appointed to fill the fields of labor by the presiding officer and the presiding elder.

Article X.

MISSIONARIES.

Each missionary in the employ of the board shall report quarterly to the secretary the condition of his mission; and no missionary shall be entitled to his salary who shall neglect to comply with this requirement, or leave his work without the consent of the executive committee, or the Board of Missions, or his presiding elder. The presiding elders of mission conferences shall report quarterly the condition of their respective works.

Article XI.

THANK-OFFERING.

All pastors in charge of fields of labor shall annually, in the month of November, take a thank-offering collection at each appointment on their charges, which shall be sent to the general missionary treasurer at Dayton, Ohio, and be sacred to foreign missions. Each pastor shall also report said collections to his annual conference, and shall be examined by the presiding bishop in relation to this duty.

Article XII.

OBJECT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

1. The proceeds of the permanent funds shall be equally divided between home and foreign missions.

2. One-half of the general missionary money raised in the conferences may be retained by the conference missionary treasurer for use in the conference. The other half shall be turned over to the treasurer of the society, and shall be divided equally between home and foreign work; but the donors may specify to what portion of the work their funds shall be applied, and such gifts shall not be subject to the above divisions.

3. Individuals, Young People's societies, congregations, and conferences shall be encouraged to have their own representatives by specially supporting, in addition to the regular collections, a missionary either in the home or foreign field, by and under the direction of the Missionary Society or the annual conference.

Article XIII.

BRANCH OFFICERS.

Each conference shall be considered a branch of this society, and shall elect a treasurer and a secretary.

SECTION 1. The branch treasurer shall immediately forward the funds designed for the parent board to the treasurer thereof.

SEC. 2. The branch secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the annual conference in relation to home, frontier, and foreign missions, separately, and report the same immediately after the session of the conference to the secretary of the board. He shall report the number of missions, appointments, meeting-houses, members at the beginning of the year, members received, and members remaining; Sabbath schools, scholars, and teachers; what paid on missions as salary, what collected for missions on missions; what collected for missions in the whole conference; how much paid to the parent board, and how much paid to home missions; and the names and post-office addresses of life directors and life members. The branch secretaries shall be responsible to their respective annual conferences for the faithful discharge of their duties.

Article XIV.

HOME MISSIONS.

Each branch society shall have the exclusive management of the home missions within its own limits; provided, however, that the missionary board shall be permitted to open and operate missions within the bounds of any annual conference, jointly or independently, by the consent of such conference.

Article XV.

TREASURERS' SECURITY.

Treasurers of the parent board and of branch societies shall give approved security.

Article XVI.

BEQUESTS.

All bequests and donations, the interest of which is to go to missionary purposes, made to any of the above societies herein mentioned, shall be kept sacred.

Article XVII.

FORMATION OF SELF-SUPPORTING CONFERENCES.

The bishops shall recommend annually to the Board of Missions what mission conferences, if any, should become self-supporting, and on the approval of the Board of Missions shall give notice to said conference one year before it is made self-supporting.

Article XVIII.

UNOCCUPIED TERRITORY.

The Board of Missions is permitted to occupy any territory within the bounds of an annual conference not occupied by said conference, in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV.

Article XIX.

LOCAL SOCIETIES.

SECTION 1. Local societies may be organized in any United Brethren congregation by securing names and electing officers.

SEC. 2. The officers of these societies shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

SEC. 3. The object of these societies shall be to enlist and educate the membership, especially the young people, in missionary work in the home and foreign fields.

SEC. 4. The treasurer shall hold all the funds of the society and transmit the same through the pastor of the charge annually to the branch society.

SEC. 5. Any person may become a member of a local society upon such terms as said society shall designate.

SEC. 6. All societies shall hold quarterly meetings for the purpose of transacting business, securing money, and cultivating the spirit of Christian missions.

[EDITORS' NOTE.—For the election and duties of the treasurer of this society, see Chapter V., Section VIII., page 42.]

CHAPTER XIX.

Woman's Missionary Association.

Section I.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

1. The name by which this corporation shall be known is, "The Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ," and the said organization is not for profit.

2. The principal business of said corporation is to be transacted in the city of Dayton, county of Montgomery, State of Ohio.

3. Said corporation is formed for the purpose of engaging and uniting the efforts of women in sending missionaries into the foreign and domestic fields of the United Brethren Church, and supporting said missionaries and other laborers in said mission fields, and in securing by gift, bequest, and otherwise, the funds necessary for the purpose aforesaid.

4. Said corporation is not to have capital stock.

Section II.

BY-LAWS.

By-Law I.

MEMBERSHIP.

The payment of one dollar annually shall constitute the donor a member of this association, and the payment of ten dollars at one time, a life member. The payment of twenty-five dollars at one time shall constitute the donor a life director. The payment of one hundred dollars at one time shall constitute the donor a life patron. By the installment plan the payment of two dollars annually for five years shall constitute the donor a life member, or five dollars annually for five years, a life director, or twenty-five dollars annually for four years, or fifty dollars annually

for two years, a life patron. A certificate is given at the time of payment in full.

By-Law II.

ORGANIZATION.

The organization of this association shall consist of a board of managers, nine trustees, and branch and local societies to be organized under the constitution hereto attached.

By-Law III.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

The board of managers shall consist of the trustees and three delegates from each branch society, who shall be elected at the branch annual meeting preceding the meeting of the board. Said board shall meet annually at such time and place as shall be designated.

The duties of said board shall be advisory to the trustees. Life patrons shall have all the privileges of full members of the board of managers. Life directors of the association shall be regarded as advisory members of the board of managers.

By-Law IV.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS.

The trustees are to be elected by the members of the association, who shall vote either in person or by proxy, on the first Thursday in June, in the city of Dayton. The officers shall be elected by the trustees, and shall consist of a president, three or more vice-presidents, a corresponding secretary, a recording secretary, and a treasurer.

By-Law V.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The board of trustees shall have power to select locations for missions, appoint missionaries, appropriate the funds of the association as the interest of the cause may demand, and attend to the administration of the affairs of the association.

By-Law VI.

RELATION OF THE ASSOCIATION TO THE CHURCH.

This association shall work in harmony with the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, and under the direction of the General Conference of said Church. Its missionaries shall be subject to the same rules that govern the missionaries of the aforesaid missionary society.

By-Law VII.

FUNDS.

All funds coming into the hands of the treasurer of the association shall be held subject to the order of the board of trustees, and no funds shall be disbursed by the treasurer except upon the orders of said board, duly signed by the secretary.

By-Law VIII.

BRANCH SOCIETIES.

One branch society may be formed within the bounds of any annual conference of the United Brethren Church, by the adoption of the branch constitution.

By-Law IX.

These by-laws may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the board of managers by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Form of Bequest.

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ, the sum of ———, to be applied to the purposes set forth in the Articles of Incorporation adopted March 28, 1890.

Name.....

SECTION III.

BRANCH CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

This society shall be called the ——— Conference Branch of the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ.

Article II.

The object of this society is to aid the association to awaken an interest among women in behalf of Christian missions, and to raise funds for their support.

Article III.

The membership of this society shall consist of the members of the association within the limits of this conference district.

Article IV.

SECTION 1. The officers of this society shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer, who together shall constitute an executive committee to supervise the entire work of the association within the conference district. It shall be their duty to make earnest efforts to secure the organization of local societies in all the United Brethren congregations within the bounds of the conference.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the secretary of this society to keep a correct record of its proceedings and the proceedings of the executive committee, and transmit a report to the corresponding secretary of the board of managers at least ten days before the annual meeting of the board.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive and hold the funds of the society, and transmit the same quarterly to the treasurer of the board, the last report to be sent in at least ten days before the meeting of the board of managers.

Article V.

This society shall hold annual meetings to elect its officers and members of the board of managers, and to transact any business pertaining to its work, its members to consist of the officers and three delegates from each local society.

Article VI.

This society shall provide for the expenses of its delegates to the annual meetings of the board of managers.

Article VII.

Life directors and life members within the bounds of the conference shall be regarded as advisory members of the annual meetings of this society.

Section IV.

LOCAL CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

This society shall be called the —— Local Society of —— Branch Society of the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ; and any woman may become a member of the same by consenting to the by-laws of said association.

Article II.

The officers of this society shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, and two or more collectors.

Article III.

Section 1. The duties of the president shall be those usual to the office.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the vice-president to assume the duties of president in her absence.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, with the names of members, and report quarterly to the secretary of the branch society.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to hold all funds of the society and transmit the same quarterly to the treasurer of the branch society.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the collectors to visit members of the Church and solicit names, collect quarterly dues, and report the number of visits and amount collected at each meeting.

Article IV.

Any child may become a member of this society upon the payment of —— cents per quarter.

Article V.

This society shall meet quarterly, and shall arrange its year with reference to the annual meeting of the branch society.

The election of officers and delegates to the branch meeting shall be held at the last quarterly meeting preceding the branch meeting.

Article VI.

This society shall appoint a superintendent of the children's band, who shall also take charge of the funds, and report quarterly to the treasurer of the branch society.

CHAPTER XX.

Women's Aid Society.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

ORGANIZATION.

When at any time an opportunity presents itself for the organization of a sufficient number of women (who are members or friends of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ) into a society for mutual aid in promoting the spiritual, social, financial, and intellectual interests of a congregation or charge, it shall be the duty of the pastor or the presiding elder of the district to call together the women of the congregation or charge, and, after securing the names of all present wishing to become members of the organization, he shall proceed to organize, by electing by ballot, a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, whose duties shall be those usually devolving upon such officers.

Article II.

NAME.

This organization shall be known as the Women's Aid Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ at ————————.

Article III.

ANNUAL ELECTION.

The officers of this society shall be elected by ballot annually, at its last meeting preceding the session of the annual conference, and the officers elect shall assume the duties of their offices at the first meeting succeeding the session of the annual conference, at which time the secretary shall turn over to the secretary-elect all books and

papers belonging to the society, and the treasurer shall make settlement with and turn over to the treasurer-elect all funds belonging to the society.

The president of this society, when a member of the Church, shall be a member of the quarterly conference.

Article IV.

MEMBERSHIP.

Any woman of good standing, friendly to the work of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, may become a member of the society.

Article V.

MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the society shall be at least once each month, and oftener when any interest demands it.

The meetings shall always open and close with devotional exercises, and the deliberations shall be conducted according to the usages of the Church.

In case of the absence of the president and vice-president, the secretary shall call the meeting to order, and proceed to the election of a president *pro tem.*, whose official acts shall be valid.

Article VI.

DUES.

Each member of the society shall pay into the treasury of the same the regular monthly dues agreed upon by the society, and in case a member shall fail to pay for six consecutive months, unless unable to do so, her name may be erased from the roll of the society.

Article VII.

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.

All moneys collected on dues, or otherwise, by the society, shall be used for the benefit of the congregation, or charge, or for any benevolent purpose, as the society may direct.

Article VIII.

CHRISTIAN VISITATION.

In order to promote the work of Christianity among the families under our influence, the members of the society may arrange, so as to have all such families visited at least once a month, by dividing the homes to be visited into districts and one or two go to each home, look after the sick, invite persons to the various services of the church, and report to the pastor or leader all persons whose interest demands immediate attention.

This is not to be substituted for the leaders nor for pastoral visiting, but to aid them in their work.

Article IX.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the society.

CHAPTER XXI.

Church-Erection Society.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

This society shall be known as the "Church-Erection Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ," located in Dayton, Ohio.

Article II.

OBJECT.

The object of this society shall be to assist congregations in locating and erecting houses of worship and parsonages.

Article III.

OFFICERS.

The officers of this society shall consist of nine directors, three of whom shall be laymen, a corresponding secretary, and a treasurer, the directors and secretary to be elected by the General Conference. The bishops shall be directors of this society *ex officio*.

These officers and directors shall constitute a board of managers, who shall meet immediately on adjournment of the General Conference, and organize by electing a president and vice-president.

The corresponding secretary shall be recording secretary of the board.

Article IV.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Section 1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the board, and shall have power, in conjunction with the secretary and two directors, to call special meetings. In

the absence of the president, the vice-president shall preside.

SEC. 2. The corresponding secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the board, conduct its correspondence, and devote himself to the work of securing funds and otherwise attending to the interests of the society as the board may direct. He shall publish annual and quadrennial reports of the work of the society. The salary of such secretary shall be fixed by the General Conference.

SEC. 3. The treasurer shall hold the funds of the society subject to the order of the board.

SEC. 4. The board of managers shall hold annual meetings, appoint an executive committee of its own number, make by-laws to regulate its business, lend money to churches, appropriate money to defray incidental expenses, and publish such matter from time to time as the cause may require. It shall be the duty of the board of managers, in case of vacancy in the office of secretary, from death, resignation, or otherwise, to appoint his successor as soon as practicable, who shall serve till the following General Conference.

Article V.

BRANCHES.

Each annual conference in the Church is hereby constituted a branch of this society, and shall elect annually a branch secretary, treasurer, and board of directors, who may adopt such rules and regulations for their government —not conflicting herewith—as they may determine. The branch secretary and treasurer shall report annually to their respective societies.

Article VI.

APPORTIONMENT AND DIVISION.

It shall be the duty of each annual conference to make a judicious apportionment to the several fields of labor within its bounds for this interest, one-half of which fund, when collected, shall be transmitted to the treasurer of the parent board of church erection, located at Dayton, Ohio, the branch treasurer retaining one-half for the conference; provided, however, that special donations and bequests shall go to the parent society unless the donors direct otherwise.

Article VII.

RECEIPTS OF TREASURER.

The treasurer shall receipt for all money sent him by the various conference treasurers. The General Church Treasurer shall be the treasurer of this society.

Article VIII.

APPLICATION FOR AID.

Application for aid from this society shall be made to the board of managers, through the officers of the branch society; provided, however, that in the locating and erection of houses of worship no board of trustees applying for help from the parent board shall receive a loan from said board until the location has received the approval of the conference board.

Article IX.

RETURN OF LOANS.

Should any local church thus aided lose its organization, so as to make the sale of its house necessary, then out of the proceeds of such sale the amount loaned, with interest, shall be refunded to the Church-Erection Board.

Article X.

GRANTING OF LOANS.

SECTION 1. The board shall make no appropriations where there is reasonable prospect that the church asking aid can succeed without it, or where there is no prospect of gathering a good membership.

SEC. 2. All aid rendered shall be only as a loan, the principle to be refunded without interest at such times as the board may direct, but in no case for a longer term than five years at any one time, or more than five hundred dollars to any single church, except that in large, growing towns and cities the amount may be increased and the time extended at the discretion of the board; provided, however, that contributions to a donation fund may be received and appropriated to aid in the erection of churches in important localities, under such regulations as the board may adopt.

SEC. 3. Funds shall not be loaned to any church until the church property is secured by deed as provided for in the Discipline; nor shall loans be made to churches until their trustees have forwarded an abstract of the title of their property, certificate of release of all mechanics' liens and other incumbrances, and their notes, secured by the first mortgage on the premises properly recorded in the records of the courts, for the inspection of the board of managers, or executive committee.

Article XI.

INSURANCE.

SECTION 1. The trustees of any church or parsonage which receives a loan from the Church-Erection Society shall be required to secure said property from loss by fire in some reliable insurance company in favor of said Church-Erection Society.

SEC. 2. The parent board shall have authority to constitute, by special act of incorporation, a plan to insure churches and parsonages within the denomination.

Article XII.

PARSONAGE FUND.

1. This fund shall be under the control of the Church-Erection Society, and shall be loaned, without interest, to aid in the building of parsonages, on the same plan and under the same regulations that loans are made to churches.

2. The Church-Erection Society shall adopt such methods as it shall deem proper to increase this fund and to bring the membership of the Church into a larger sympathy with the work of building parsonages.

3. It shall be the duty of the Church-Erection Secretary to include in his annual report to the board a full statement of new funds received and of loans returned, together with the number of parsonages added during the year.

Article XIII.

DUTY OF THE MINISTRY.

1. Each pastor shall present the interests of church erection to his people during the year, and distribute such literature as will best inform them upon the subject.

2. The presiding elder shall direct attention to the interests of the society at quarterly meetings, and shall advise with the pastors as to the best methods of securing the assessments in full. They shall also interest themselves in securing special gifts and bequests from those who may be able to give.

[NOTE.—For the election and duties of the treasurer of this society, see Chap. V., Section VIII., page 42.]

CHAPTER XXII

Printing Establishment and Church Publications.

Section I.

PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

Name.

1. This establishment shall be called "The Printing Establishment of the United Brethren in Christ."

Election of Officers.

2. The controlling authority herein granted shall be vested in the General Conference of said Church, whose duty it shall be to elect the necessary agents and editors, and fix their salaries, and make or amend such rules as in its judgment it may deem expedient.

Trustees—Election and Duties.

3. The General Conference shall elect a board of nine trustees from the four bishops' districts, to serve for four years, or until their successors are elected; provided, that not less than three of the number shall be residents of Dayton or its vicinity.

4. The board of trustees thus elected shall, during the interval of the General Conferences, take the oversight of the Printing Establishment. They shall meet annually, or oftener if need be, in the Publishing House in Dayton, Ohio, on the call of their president. They shall also select a local committee of three of their number, from among those residing in Dayton or its vicinity.

5. The local committee shall take the oversight of the establishment during the intervals of the meetings of the board of trustees. It shall meet monthly, or oftener if need be, and shall have power to order expenses curtailed in any department of the Publishing House; and should there arise a difference of opinion between the Agent and editor of any of the publications as to what shall appear in the columns of any paper, the committee shall decide the matter; it shall also decide what books that have been

approved by the book committee shall be published by the House, and transact such other business as may come before it.

6. The board of trustees shall have full power at any meeting to discontinue any periodical when the interests of the Church or Printing Establishment demand it; such action shall, however, not be taken except by a two-thirds vote of the board.

7. It shall be the duty of the trustees to see that the Agent and editors properly and faithfully discharge their duties. In case of dereliction of duty, they may suspend the delinquent party or parties from office until the General Conference; provided, however, that no one shall be suspended until a copy of the complaints in writing has been presented to the accused, and an opportunity given for defense before the board of trustees.

8. The trustees may make any by-laws which may seem to them expedient for the regulation of the minor concerns of the Printing Establishment, provided they are not inconsistent with any General Conference rule.

Duties of Publishing Agent.

9. It shall be the duty of the Agent to supervise and manage the business of the Printing Establishment, under the direction of the board of trustees; to regulate the publications and all other affairs of the House, except that which pertains to the editorial departments, in such manner as the interests of the Church may require. He shall also furnish to the local committee, at each monthly meeting, a full and satisfactory statement of all the business transactions of the previous month; and, if desired by the committee, he shall present for examination all books, vouchers, and papers, and afford the committee every means and facility for a full and intelligent understanding of the business of the Publishing House. He shall keep separate accounts with each department of the business, and also each periodical published, and carry into effect all of the instructions of the board of trustees and local committee.

10. The Agent and local committee shall annually take an account of stock, including in the inventory all the assets, of whatever nature, of the Printing Establishment at their estimated cash value, except the real estate, which shall be appraised by the local committee of the board of

trustees at the end of each quadrennium, and the valuation shall not be changed prior to the close of the succeeding quadrennium except by the purchase or sale, improvement or destruction, of property. Such inventory shall also contain a full and detailed statement of all liabilities, profits, and losses.

11. The Agent shall prepare and publish a report of the condition of the Printing Establishment annually, in the *Religious Telescope*, and he shall also make a report to the General Conference. He shall make arrangements for *verbatim* reports of the proceedings of the General Conference for publication.

Vacancies.

12. Should any vacancy occur in any of the offices of the Printing Establishment, or in the board of trustees, the trustees shall fill such vacancy until the sitting of the succeeding General Conference.

Employment of Time.

13. No editor or officer employed in the Printing Establishment shall accept any office or engage in any business which will interfere with the duties of his office.

Proceeds.

14. The profits of the Printing Establishment, after a sufficient capital to carry on the business is retained, shall be applied to the benefit of traveling and worn-out itinerant preachers and their widows and orphans. The distribution of any available profits of the Printing Establishment for this purpose shall be in proportion to the number of regular ministers in each annual conference who are itinerants according to the "Itinerant Plan" of the Discipline. It shall be the duty of the secretary of each annual conference each year to report to the Publishing Agent, at Dayton, Ohio, the true number of such itinerants as shown by the records of his conference; also the name and address of the conference treasurer appointed to receive the dividend awarded to the conference.

SECTION II.

CHURCH PUBLICATIONS.

Book Committee.

1. The editor of the *Religious Telescope*, the editor of the Sabbath-school literature, and the Publishing Agent,

shall constitute a book committee, without whose sanction no book shall be published in the name of the Church or Publishing House during the intervals of the General Conference.

Authorship of Doctrinal Publications.

2. No one of our preachers or laymen shall become the author of any doctrinal book or pamphlet, in a printed form, in the name of the Church, without the approbation of the book committee or the annual conference, or of a committee chosen by the latter. And if any preacher or layman violates this rule, he shall be accountable to the class or to the quarterly or annual conference, as the case may be.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Education.

Section I.

BOARD OF EDUCATION—CONSTITUTION.

1. There shall be a general board of education, known by the name of "The Board of Education," under the care of the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. This board shall consist of nine members, elected by the General Conference, who shall hold office for four years. The bishops shall be members *ex officio* of the board. Five members, including the president or vice-president, shall constitute a quorum. This board shall have full power to direct and supervise the educational work of the Church, by carrying out the rules and regulations enacted by the General Conference.

Officers.

2. The officers shall be a president, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer. These shall be elected by the members of the board at their first regular meeting after the sitting of the General Conference, and shall hold office until the next regular session of the General Conference.

3. The board may elect any competent persons, members of the United Brethren Church, to be its treasurer and corresponding secretary; these, if elected outside of the board, shall be advisory members of the board.

4. The corresponding secretary is to devote such portion of his time to the work of the board as it may direct, his compensation to be fixed by the board.

5. In case of vacancy occurring in the board, by death or otherwise, the board shall have power to fill the vacancy, the election to be by ballot, and the person elected to hold office until the next meeting of the General Conference.

6. There shall be at least one session of the board each year. Special meetings of the board shall be called by the president, upon request of five members.

Objects.

7. The objects of this board shall be:

GENERAL AIM.

(1) To assist in every way the cause of higher education in the Church, to awaken and stimulate an interest in this important work throughout the borders of our Zion, to encourage and aid our educational institutions that are striving to bring the Church to greater efficiency, and to unite the friends of education in their efforts, that greater unity of plan may be secured, and the forces of the Church combined to give our people advantages commensurate with the needs of the present day.

BENEFICIARY AID.

(2) To raise funds by collection, donation, or bequest, to aid by loan, without interest, as the executive committee may determine, in educating, in both their collegiate and theological courses, worthy young persons who are preparing themselves for the work of the gospel ministry, or as missionaries in the United Brethren Church; provided, however, that the board shall have power to receive money and use it for other educational purposes, as donors may direct.

PUBLICATIONS.

(3) To seek by the publication of tracts, pamphlets, addresses, or books upon educational questions, to diffuse among our members a more general knowledge of the value of a sanctified education and of a well-instructed ministry, and thereby awaken in them a better appreciation of our institutions of learning, and of the obligations resting upon them to give of their substance for their support.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

(4) To make an annual report of the general and financial condition of the colleges and other educational institutions of the Church; to make such recommendations to

the managers of these institutions as will tend to make them more effective; to secure, as far as may seem desirable, harmony of courses of study between preparatory schools and colleges and universities.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

(5) To discourage the multiplication of schools and colleges where they cannot be properly supported. Conferences, or a conference, wishing to establish, relocate, or change the grade of a school, shall first counsel with the Board of Education, both as to the advisability of the measure proposed, and also as to the method and location, and any school started without the sanction of this board shall not be recognized as a Church school. The board shall make inquiry as to the number of schools within different communities, and where found to be too numerous, the board shall institute measures for combination and concentration of their resources and efforts.

Collections.

8. To accomplish these results, the board may cause an annual collection to be taken on the next Sabbath following the last Thursday of January, or at such other time as the presiding elder of any district may deem most suitable. The preacher in charge, or some other competent person, shall first preach a sermon or make appropriate remarks concerning the object, plans, and work of this board, and then take a collection in such manner as will secure the largest amount of funds. If the board thinks best, it may apportion the amount to be raised by the various conferences, according to their number and ability, and the conferences in turn shall make these apportionments to their respective fields of labor, and the funds thus raised shall be sent to the treasurer of the board.

Recommendations for Aid.

9. Young persons aided by this board must first be recommended as suitable persons to receive aid, by the conference in whose bounds they live, or to which they belong; or by the Board of Missions, when the applicant does not reside within the bounds of any conference; or

by an educational committee appointed by the conference, to whom all requests for aid, not acted upon by conference, or which shall occur during the *interim* of its sessions, shall be referred.

Delinquents.

10. Any person having received aid from the Board of Education shall not be granted an honorable dismissal by his conference until he shall have made satisfactory settlement with the board. The bishops are directed to enforce this provision.

Executive Committee and By-Laws.

11. The board shall have power to appoint an executive committee from its own body, and to make such by-laws to regulate its own proceedings, and take such other measures to accomplish the object of its creation, as shall not be inconsistent with this constitution.

Quadrennial Report.

12. The board, through its corresponding secretary, shall make to the General Conference a report of all the work done during the preceding four years, including money received by collections, bequests, or otherwise, the amount paid out, and the purposes for which it was paid. The board may propose to the General Conference, from time to time, such plans as it may consider useful or necessary for the success of the work committed to it.

13. No addition or amendments to the provisions of this constitution shall be made except by consent of a majority of the members of the General Conference present at any of its sessions. Notice of any proposed addition or amendment shall be given at least one day previous to its consideration.

Section II.

ACADEMIES.

In this day of excellent high-schools in many parts of our country, academies should be located judiciously, and should confine their literary courses of study to such branches of learning as will prepare for entrance upon the freshman or sophomore year of the best colleges. An academy doing such work is greatly preferable to an inferior college. No

new academy shall be undertaken with a less sum than twenty-five thousand dollars.

Section III.

COLLEGES.

1. The success of our church work is connected vitally with the colleges of the Church. In these our youth are developed and equipped in mind and heart for the work of effective service to humanity.

2. The ministry and laity should earnestly use their power to have as many young people as possible attend our own institutions of learning, and to encourage persons to give liberally of their means for the more thorough establishment and equipment of our educational institutions.

3. For the purpose of greater unity and efficiency in our educational work, the General Conference directs that the length of a course of study leading to degrees be three years in the preparatory department and four years in the college, and asks all the schools in the Church to adopt this standard.

4. No college shall be founded except upon the demand of an imperative necessity, or with a less sum of money than one hundred thousand dollars, of which fifty thousand dollars shall be a permanent and productive endowment, and whose title shall be in fee simple to the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. As to Christian education, the divine Word aptly declares: "Wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it."

5. It is advised that any conference coöperating with any of our institutions of learning remain therewith until there be an equitable adjustment of all outstanding obligations of such institution, either as may be determined by such conference and the trustees of the institution, or by the Board of Education.

6. It is recommended that the several presidents and principals of our institutions of learning be *ex officio* members of the local official bodies which govern the said institutions.

7. We direct that the endowment funds of our institutions of learning be kept sacred for the purposes for which they were given, and not dissipated and jeopardized by

loans to the contingent fund of the institution and spent for current expenses, and we recommend that these funds of our institutions be not loaned to the members of the board, or officers or teachers of the institution, or others who are personally interested in the care and safe-keeping of these funds.

8. We cordially endorse and approve the best method of industrial education as applied in those institutions where mechanical and other equipment is provided for this purpose, and recommend that this practical training and self-help be secured for those who desire it, as soon as practicable.

College Extension Courses.

9. In view of the fact that many of our ministers and laymen who find it impossible to go away to school, would be glad to pursue a course of study, and in view of the university and college extension movement now organized in most of the schools of higher education in our land, we recommend:

(1) That all our colleges offer such non-resident courses of study as they may be able to teach, for the aid and encouragement of the above-named class of students.

(2) That these students be examined thoroughly on their courses of study, and that suitable diplomas be awarded those who complete their work to the satisfaction of the respective colleges.

Section IV.

UNION BIBLICAL SEMINARY.

1. This institution of sacred learning, located at Dayton, Ohio, is maintained by the United Brethren in Christ for the purpose of educating persons called of God to the work of the ministry and the spread of the gospel of Christ among men. It shall be under the control of the General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ, by which its board of directors shall be elected at each quadrennial session.

Officers.

2. The officers of the Seminary shall consist of a business manager and a board of directors, who shall be elected by the General Conference. The board of directors shall be composed of not less than nine members, and may have

three additional members at large, to be elected by the board of directors, at their option, for a term not extending beyond that of the ensuing General Conference, and the bishops of the Church, who shall be considered *ex officio* members; provided, always, that a majority of the directors shall be *bona fide* residents of the State of Ohio.

Duties of Directors.

3. The board of directors shall meet on the call of the senior bishop immediately after their election, and organize by electing a president and secretary. They shall meet annually in the Seminary building at Dayton, Ohio, elect the necessary faculty, review the work of the business manager and the faculty, determine the salaries of the faculty, and adopt measures for the advancement of the interests of the institution.

4. The board of directors may fill any vacancy caused by the resignation, removal, or refusal to serve of the business manager or trustees.

5. The board shall annually elect an executive committee of five persons, who shall meet on the call of the business manager or its chairman, and direct in the execution of orders and plans of the board of directors.

6. The board of directors shall make to the General Conference a report of its work, giving such facts in connection with the Seminary as it may deem of importance.

Business Manager.

7. The business manager shall reside in Dayton, Ohio, and shall manage the assets under the direction of the executive committee, have charge of all the property, and manage the business of the institution. He shall solicit, and, with the consent and approval of the board of directors, or executive committee, employ others to solicit, contributions to the Seminary. In the name of the Union Biblical Seminary, and under its corporate seal, the business manager shall execute all deeds of transfer and other legal documents which may be authorized by the board of directors of its executive committee. He shall report to the board of directors annually, and to the General Conference, an account of all receipts and expenditures, and

the standing and efficiency of the institution, with any other important facts or recommendations.

The Custodian of Funds.

8. The General Church Treasurer shall receive and disburse on order the funds of the Seminary.

Endowment and Other Funds.

9. All moneys or values of any kind given to the Seminary as an endowment shall be held sacred as a permanent fund and securely invested, the interest only to be used in the maintenance of the Seminary. All other funds shall be used as the interests of the Seminary may require or as the donors may direct.

Annual Collections.

10. The annual apportionment to the whole number of annual conferences for the benefit of the Seminary shall be $8,000. This amount shall be apportioned by the board of directors to the several annual conferences, and by the conferences apportioned to the several charges, to be collected by the pastors and reported to their respective conferences; and it shall be the duty of the presiding bishop to see that the full amount of the assessment is properly apportioned to the respective charges. Ten per cent. of the funds thus secured may be used for the support of the library in the Seminary.

Obligation of Faculty.

11. Each professor chosen to a chair in the Seminary shall, upon the day of his inauguration, publicly subscribe to the following declaration of faith and obligation:

I solemnly declare, in the presence of God and the officers of Union Biblical Seminary, that I believe the Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, and, with the Holy Spirit, the only perfect rule of faith and practice. I believe the Confession of Faith, as contained in the thirteen articles in our Book of Discipline, to be a truthful consensus of the fundamental doctrines of the Bible. I believe that the system of church government, as presented in the Book of Discipline of the United Brethren in Christ, is consistent with the teachings of the

sacred Scriptures, and I solemnly promise that I will not teach or insinuate anything that shall in any way be inconsistent with the foregoing declaration, or that is not in harmony with the Constitution and Confession of Faith and the rules of the Church as set forth in the Discipline of the United Brethren in Christ. I also promise, by divine assistance, to the best of my ability, to sustain the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as thus set forth by the Church, in opposition to all forms of error, as long as I shall remain a professor in this institution.

[Name].....

Entrance Examination.

12. The faculty shall prepare examination papers for candidates for admission to the Seminary, and arrange for examinations in the respective conferences without expense to candidates.

Postgraduate Studies.

13. The faculty may arrange postgraduate courses of reading to cover one, two, and three years, for the successful completion of which appropriate seals shall be placed upon the diplomas of alumni. The examination shall be by correspondence, or otherwise, as the faculty may arrange.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Historical Society.

Section I.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPROVAL.

1. The Historical Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, located at Dayton, Ohio, having for its object the collecting and preserving of papers, records, books, and other materials bearing upon the history of the Church, has the recognition of the General Conference.

2. Said society shall, through its officers, make quadrennial reports to the General Conference.

Section II.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

NAME.

The name of this society shall be, The Historical Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

Article II.

OBJECT.

Its object shall be, to collect and preserve information in connection with the rise and progress of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; also, objects of curiosity and interest, in the form of manuscripts, books, pamphlets, medals, portraits, etc.

Article III.

LOCATION.

The business headquarters, the museum, and library of the society shall be located in Dayton, Ohio.

Article IV.

MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Any person approved by the board of managers may become a member upon the payment of an initiatory fee of one dollar, and may retain membership by contributing one dollar annually thereafter. In case of failure to pay fees within six months after they are due, membership shall be forfeited.

SEC. 2. Any person approved by the board of managers may, by the payment of ten dollars, become a life member, and shall be exempt from the payment of the annual fee.

SEC. 3. The board of mangers shall have power to appoint a corresponding member within each of the annual conferences of the Church; but, at the request of the board of managers, a corresponding member may be elected by an annual conference. Other corresponding members may be elected by the board, at their option.

SEC. 4. Any person considered worthy of the honor may, by the board of managers, be elected to honorary membership, without fees.

Article V.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers shall consist of a president, first, second, and third vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer, librarian, and a board of managers consisting of these officers and eight other members.

SEC. 2. These officers shall be elected at each regular annual meeting, and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected.

SEC. 3. The election of officers shall be conducted by ballot, unless there be but one nomination, in which case the election shall be by acclamation.

SEC. 4. In voting by ballot, no votes shall be counted except those cast by members present at the meeting, for persons nominated, and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to election.

SEC. 5. The board of managers shall have power to fill vacancies.

Article VI.

DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of members of every

class to promote the interests of the society in every way possible, by securing for the society such information and such articles as will be of value in accomplishing the purpose of the organization.

SEC. 2. Annual and life members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the society, including admission to the museum and library. Corresponding and honorary members shall be entitled to admission to the museum and library.

Article VII.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The duties of the president, vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer shall be such as are usually performed by these officers.

SEC. 2. The librarian shall be the custodian of the property of the society, and shall manage it according to the rules adopted by the board of managers.

SEC. 3. The board of managers shall have charge of all the interests of the society in the interim of the annual meetings. They shall meet quarterly. Special meetings may be called by the president. Five shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 4. The treasurer, librarian, and board of managers shall render reports to the society at the annual meeting.

Article VIII.

PROPERTY.

All the property of the society, except its funds, shall be deposited in a room or rooms provided for the purpose, and shall be open for the inspection of the members of the society and others, under such restrictions and regulations as may be adopted by the board of managers; and in no case shall any article of any kind be removed from the museum or depository, except by order of the board of managers, and then only for a limited time. The depository shall contain, under the same restrictions and regulations, for the benefit of the members, a library, to be formed as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

Article IX.

FUNDS.

SECTION 1. All funds, after necessary expenses are paid, shall be appropriated to the enlargement and preservation of the museum and library.

SEC. 2. All bequests of money made to the society shall be funded under the direction of the board of managers, and the interest thereof used for ordinary expenses.

Article X.

MEETINGS.

The society shall meet annually for the purpose of electing officers and transacting other necessary business. Twenty-five shall constitute a quorum. The time of meeting of the society and the board shall be determined by the board.

Article XI.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been previously approved by the board of managers, and published in the *Religious Telescope.*

PART VII.

BOUNDARIES.

CHAPTER XXV.

BISHOPS' DISTRICTS.[1]

I. EAST DISTRICT.

ALLEGHENY, Eastern Pennsylvania, Erie, East Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Germany, West Africa, and Kentucky mission district.

II. OHIO DISTRICT.

Miami, Sandusky, Southeast Ohio, Indiana, White River, St. Joseph, Michigan, Ohio German, East Tennessee, West Tennessee, Chickamauga and Louisiana mission conferences.

III. CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Lower Wabash, Upper Wabash, Northern Illinois, Des Moines, Illinois, Iowa, Northeast Kansas, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Neosho, Arkansas Valley, and Oklahoma.

IV. WEST DISTRICT.

Northwest Kansas, East Nebraska, West Nebraska, Northern Nebraska, Colorado, California, Columbia River, Oregon, Japan Mission Conference, and China Mission.

[1] By order of the General Conference each bishop is required to reside within the bounds of his own district.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Annual Conference Districts.

ALLEGHENY.

1. Beginning at the southwest corner of Mercer County, Pennsylvania; thence along the southern line of Mercer and Venango counties to Clarion County; thence north along the eastern line of Venango County to Warren County; thence along the southern line of Warren, McKean, and Potter counties; thence north along the eastern line of Potter County to the New York State line; thence along the State line between New York and Pennsylvania to the north branch of the Susquehanna River; thence along the west line of the Eastern Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania conferences to the State of Maryland; thence along the south line of the State of Pennsylvania to the southwest corner of the State; thence along the State line to the place of beginning.

ARKANSAS VALLEY.

2. Beginning at the northwest corner of the Neosho Conference; thence west to the Colorado State line; thence south to the south line of the State of Kansas; thence east along the Kansas State line to the west line of Neosho Conference; thence north to the place of beginning.

CALIFORNIA.

3. Embraces the State of California.

COLORADO.

4. Includes the States of Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah.

COLUMBIA RIVER.

5. Beginning on the northern boundary of the State of Washington; thence south along the Cascade Mountains to the Columbia River; thence up the Columbia River to the mouth of the John Day River; thence south along said river to its source; thence east to the Oregon line, including all

the territory in Washington and Oregon east of the line above given, and also the State of Idaho.

DES MOINES.

6. Embraces all that part of the State of Iowa west of the Iowa Conference line.

EAST NEBRASKA.

7. Beginning at the northeast corner of Douglass County, Nebraska; thence west to the Platte River; thence along said river to the West Nebraska Conference line; thence south on said line to the southern boundary line of Nebraska; thence east to the southeast corner of said State; thence north along the east line of said State to the point of beginning. The town of Chester, in Thayer County, Nebraska, to belong to Northwest Kansas Conference. (Fremont, on the Union Pacific Railroad, to belong to North Nebraska Conference.)

EAST OHIO.

8. Beginning at the northeast corner of the State of Ohio; thence south along the State line and the Ohio River to Marietta; thence up the Muskingum River to a point opposite the northwest corner of Noble County, Ohio; then due east to said northwest corner of Noble County; thence north along the east line of Muskingum and Guernsey counties, Ohio; thence west along the north line of Muskingum and Licking counties, Ohio, to the east line of Delaware County, Ohio; thence west from this point to Delaware, Ohio; thence north along the eastern boundary of Sandusky (or "Northwest Ohio") Conference to Sandusky City, Ohio; thence eastward along the northern boundary of the State of Ohio to the place of beginning.

EAST TENNESSEE.

9. Embraces all the territory in Tennessee lying east of the Cumberland Mountains.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

10. Beginning at the northeast boundary of the State of New Jersey on the Atlantic Coast; thence along the said boundary line and the Delaware River to the northern bound-

ary of Pennsylvania; thence westward along said boundary to the north branch of the Susquehanna River; thence along said river to the junction of the north and west branches of the Susquehanna River; thence southward along the east shore of the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay to the Atlantic Ocean; thence northward along the Atlantic Coast to the place of beginning. Said Conference shall be the legal successor of Eastern Conference and East Pennsylvania Conference. All rights, interests, bequests, and obligations of said conferences shall inhere in the said Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

ERIE.

11. Beginning on the shore of Lake Erie, at the northwest corner of the State of Pennsylvania; thence south along the State line between Ohio and Pennsylvania to the southwest corner of Mercer County, Pennsylvania; thence east with the line as described in the bounding of Allegheny Conference to the New York State line, and including the State of New York and all that part of Pennsylvania embraced within the above-described limits; provided, that Orangeville Circuit be included in Erie Conference. An enabling act is hereby passed permitting Erie and Ontario conferences to unite during the next four years, should both conferences agree to such an arrangement.

GERMANY.

12. Embracing all the territory occupied by our missions in Germany.

ILLINOIS.

13. Beginning at Rapids City, Illinois, on the Mississippi River; thence south to Colona; thence eastward along the line of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad to Peru, Illinois; thence south along the Illinois River to the mouth of said river; thence up the Mississippi River to the place of beginning.

INDIANA.

14. Beginning at the southeast corner of Franklin County, Indiana; thence along the line of White River Conference to Gosport, Indiana; thence southwest along the line of the Indianapolis & Vincennes Railroad to the north line of Congressional Township number nine (9) north; thence due west along said township line to the northwest corner of Sullivan County, Indiana, the Beach Circuit to belong to the

Indiana Conference; thence down the Wabash River to the mouth of said river; thence up the Ohio River to the mouth of the Great Miami River; thence along the State line between Ohio and Indiana to the place of beginning.

IOWA.

15. Embraces all that part of the State of Iowa east of the following boundary line: Beginning at northwest corner of Winnebago County; thence south to the southwest corner of Wright County; thence east to the northwest corner of Hardin County; thence south along the county line to the north line of Story County; thence east to the northeast corner of Marshall County; thence south to the southeast corner of Jasper County; thence west to the southwest corner of Jasper County; thence south to the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; thence west along said railroad to the west line of Lucas County; thence south to the State line.

JAPAN.

16. Embraces the territory in Japan occupied by the General Board of Missions.

LOUISIANA.

17. Embraces the State of Louisiana.

LOWER WABASH.

18. Beginning at Gosport, Indiana; thence along the Monon Railroad to Greencastle; thence with the Indianapolis & Terre Haute Railroad, including Knightsville and Terre Haute, to the Wabash River; thence up said river to the mouth of Bruletts Creek; thence up said creek to Cherry Point; thence west on the Indianapolis, Decatur & Springfield Railroad to and including Tuscola; thence north by the Illinois Central Railroad to Tolona; thence with the described boundary of the Northern Illinois Conference to the mouth of the Illinois River; thence down the Mississippi River to Cairo, Illinois; thence up the Ohio River to the mouth of the Wabash River; thence up said river to the northwest corner of Sullivan County, Indiana; thence eastward along the boundary line of the Indiana Conference to Gosport, Indiana, the place of beginning.

MIAMI.

19. Beginning at the mouth of the Great Miami River; thence north along the western boundary of the State of

Ohio, to the northwest corner of Darke County, Ohio; thence eastward along the Sandusky ("Northwest Ohio") Conference line to Sidney, Ohio; thence to the east line of Champaign County, Ohio; thence southwest along the east line of the counties of Champaign, Clarke, and Greene to the north line of Clinton County; thence west on the north line of Clinton County to the northeast corner of Warren County; thence south on the east line of Warren County to the north line of Clermont County; thence west on the north line of Clermont County to the east line of Hamilton County; thence south on the east line of Hamilton County to the Ohio River; thence down the Ohio River to the place of beginning; provided, that the cities of Newport and Covington, in the State of Kentucky, and the Rockdale Church, in the State of Indiana, shall belong to the Miami Conference.

MICHIGAN.

20. The Michigan Conference embraces all of the State of Michigan.

MINNESOTA.

21. Embraces all of the State of Minnesota; also, Faulk, Spink, Deuel, Grant, and Coddington counties, in South Dakota.

MISSOURI.

22. The Missouri Conference embraces the State of Missouri.

NEOSHO.

23. Beginning at the southwest corner of Chautauqua County, Kansas; thence north to the south line of Northeast Kansas Conference; thence due east to the State line; thence to the southeast corner of Indian Territory; thence west on the Territory line to the town of Colbert, on the Red River; thence north to the place of beginning.

NEW SOUTH.

24. Embraces territory in the States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi. An enabling act is hereby passed permitting the organization of an annual conference within the States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi during the quadrennium.

NORTHEAST KANSAS.

25. Beginning at the center of the north line of Wash-

ington County, Kansas; thence due south to the Republican River; thence down said river to its mouth; thence south to the north line of Arkansas Valley Conference; thence east to the State line; thence north to the north line of the State; thence to the place of beginning.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS.

26. Beginning at Rapids City, on the Mississippi River; thence south to Colona Station, on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad; thence east along the line of said railroad to the Illinois River; thence down the Illinois River to its mouth; thence east to Vandalia; thence up the Okaw River to Shelbyville; thence along the line of the Chicago & Illinois Railroad to Sullivan; thence north along the Wabash Railroad to Bement; thence east along the Wabash Railroad to Tolona; thence north along the Illinois Central Railroad to Kankakee; thence east to the Illinois State line; thence north to the northeast corner of Illinois; thence west to the northwest corner of Illinois; thence south along the Illinois State line to the place of beginning. All rights, interests, bequests, and obligations of the Central Illinois and Rock River conferences to inhere in said Northern Illinois Conference.

NORTH NEBRASKA.

27. Beginning at the northeast corner of Douglass County, Nebraska; thence north along the Iowa and south Dakota State lines to the northeast corner of Moody County, South Dakota; thence west to the west line of South Dakota; thence south to the north line of town twenty-four in Nebraska; thence east on said line to the source of Cedar River; thence down said river to Fullerton; thence south to the Platte River; thence east along the Platte River to the northwest corner of Douglass County, Nebraska; thence east along the north boundary line of said county to the place of beginning.

NORTHWEST KANSAS.

28. Beginning on the northern boundary of Kansas at the center of Washington County; thence south to the Republican River; thence down said river to its mouth; thence due south to the north line of Arkansas Valley Con-

ference; thence west to the Colorado line; thence north to the Nebraska line; thence east to the place of beginning. That Chester, in Thayer County, Nebraska, belong to Northwest Kansas Conference.

OHIO GERMAN.

29. Embraces the States of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. Permission is also granted to go into any of the western States or Territories, where doors of usefulness may be open to labor among the German population.

OKLAHOMA.

30. The Oklahoma Conference shall embrace all the Territory of Oklahoma, and that part of the Indian Territory lying between Oklahoma and the State of Texas.

ONTARIO.

31. Embraces all the Province of Ontario, in the Dominion of Canada.

OREGON.

32. Embraces in its territory all the States of Oregon and Washington not occupied by the Columbia River Conference.

PENNSYLVANIA.

33. Beginning at the mouth of the Juniata River; thence along said river westward to Newport, Pennsylvania; thence along the Shireman's Valley Railroad to Loysville; thence southward to a spur of the Blue Ridge Mountains, extending northward into Perry County, Pennsylvania; thence southward along the crest of said mountain, forming the northern boundary of the Cumberland Valley to the State of Maryland; thence westward along the Pennsylvania and Maryland State lines to the northwest corner of Washington County, Maryland; thence southward along the western boundary of said county to the Potomac River; thence along said river to the Chesapeake Bay; thence eastward along the coast to the mouth of the Susquehanna River; thence northward along said river to the place of beginning. Said conference shall be the legal successor of Pennsylvania and Maryland conferences. All rights, interests, bequests, and obligations belonging to said conference shall inhere in the said Pennsylvania Conference.

SANDUSKY.

34. Beginning at Sandusky, Ohio; thence south along the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to Shelby Junction; thence south and west along the Big Four Railroad to Delaware and Marysville, Ohio; thence west along the south line of Logan County to Sidney, Ohio; thence west on a straight line to the northeast corner of Darke County, Ohio; thence west to the west line of the State of Ohio; thence north along the State line to the northwest corner of the State line of Ohio; thence east to Sandusky, Ohio, the place of beginning. Sidney, Galion, Shelby, and Chicago, Ohio, to belong to the Sandusky Conference. The Sandusky Conference to become and to be the true and legal successor of Auglaize and North Ohio conferences,[1] and all proportionate property rights, interests, and legacies vested in the said Auglaize, North Ohio, and Central Ohio conferences, in proportion to the membership of said conferences in its bounds, shall inhere in the said Sandusky Conference. An enabling act is hereby passed permitting Sandusky Conference at any time during the ensuing quadrennium, in annual session, to change its name from that of Sandusky Conference to that of "Northwest Ohio" Conference.

SOUTHEAST OHIO.

35. Beginning at Delaware, Ohio; thence along the boundary line of East Ohio Conference in a southeasterly direction to Marietta, Ohio; thence down the Ohio River to the east line of Hamilton County Ohio; thence to the northwest corner of Clermont County; thence along the north line of Clermont County to the east line of Warren County, Ohio; thence northward on the east line of the counties of Warren, Greene, Clarke, and Champaign to the south line of Sandusky ("Northwest Ohio") Conference; thence eastward along said line to Delaware, Ohio, the place of beginning. Said conference to be the legal successor of Scioto and Central Ohio conferences. All rights, interests, and bequests of said conferences within these bounds shall inhere in the said Southeast Ohio Conference.

[1] The journals of the said conferences to be placed in the Church Historical Society depository at the United Brethren Publishing House.

ST. JOSEPH.

36. Beginning at the northeast corner of the State of Indiana; thence west along the northern boundary of said State to Michigan City, Indiana; thence southward along the Monon Railroad to Lafayette, all towns along the line of said railroad to belong to St. Joseph Conference, except Battle Ground and Brookston; thence along the Lake Erie & Western Railroad, including the towns of Jefferson and Frankfort, and the Newcomer Church, to Frankfort, Indiana; thence along the Clover Leaf Railroad to Kokomo, Kokomo to belong to White River Conference; thence along the Lake Erie & Western Railroad to Peru, Indiana; thence up the Wabash River to the Ohio State line; thence north on said line to the northeast corner of the State of Indiana, the place of beginning.

WEST TENNESSEE.

37. Embraces all the territory of the State of Tennessee lying west of the Cumberland Mountains.

UPPER WABASH.

38. Beginning at Lafayette, Indiana; thence by way of the Monon Railroad to Michigan City, including the towns of Battle Ground and Brookston, and Lowell's Chapel; thence west to the Indiana and Illinois State line; thence south on said State line to a point east of Kankakee, Illinois; thence west to Kankakee; thence south along the Chicago branch of the Illinois Central Railroad to Tuscola, including Tolona; thence south and east with the line of the Lower Wabash Conference to Gosport; thence northeast along the line of the Indianapolis & Vincennes Railroad to the west line of Marion County, Indiana; thence along the west and the north lines of Marion County to the Monon Railroad; thence along the Monon Railroad in a northwest direction to Frankfort, Indiana; thence along the Lake Erie & Western Railroad to Lafayette, the place of beginning.

VIRGINIA.

39. That the Virginia Conference embraces the State of Virginia; also, that part of West Virginia lying east of the west boundary lines of the counties of Grant and Pendleton

of said State; also, Allegheny County, Maryland, and that part of Garrett County, Maryland, lying east of the boundary of West Virginia Conference. (The Swanton and Bethlehem churches to belong to West Virginia Conference.)

WEST AFRICA.

40. Embraces all the territory occupied by our missions on the West Coast of Africa.

WEST NEBRASKA.

41. Beginning at the northwest corner of Hamilton County; thence south to the Thayer County line; thence east six miles; thence south to the Nebraska State line; thence west to the southwest corner of the State of Nebraska; thence north to the northwest corner of Perkins County, Nebraska; thence west to the west Nebraska State line; thence north to the line of the North Nebraska Conference; thence east and south along the boundary of said conference to the place of beginning.

WEST VIRGINIA.

42. Beginning with the summit of the Allegheny Mountains at the line between Pennsylvania and Maryland; thence along the summit of said mountains southwest to the Grant County line; thence along the west line of said county to Pendleton County; thence along the west line of said county to the Virginia State line; thence along the State line to the Kentucky State line; thence north to the Ohio River; thence with said river to the Pennsylvania State line; thence east on said line to the place of beginning.

WHITE RIVER.

43. Beginning at the southeast corner of Franklin County, Indiana; thence west along the southern boundary of Franklin County to the southwest corner of said county; thence westward along the Big Four Railroad by way of Greensburg to Columbus, the Columbus charge to belong to White River Conference; thence westward by way of Nashville to Bloomington, Indiana; thence along the Monon Railroad to Gosport, Indiana; thence along the Indianapolis & Vincennes Railroad in a northeasterly direction to the west line of Marion County, Indiana; thence north along the west

line to the northwest corner of Marion County; thence east along the north line of said county to the Monon Railroad; thence along the Monon Railroad to Frankfort, Indiana; thence along the St. Joseph Conference line by way of Kokomo to Peru; thence up the Wabash River to the Ohio State line; thence south to the southeast corner of Franklin County, Indiana, the place of beginning. The Kokomo and Geneva charges to belong to the White River Conference.

WISCONSIN.

44. Embraces all the State of Wisconsin.

MISSION DISTRICTS.

Chickamauga.

(1) Embraces the State of Tennessee and the country south, wherever churches are organized among the colored people.

Kentucky.

(2) Embraces all of the State of Kentucky, except Covington and Newport, which belong to Miami Conference. An enabling act is hereby passed to permit Kentucky District during the quadrennium to become an annual conference.

China.

(3) Embraces the territory occupied in China by the Woman's Missionary Association.

PART VIII.

FORMULAS AND FORMS.

CHAPTER XXVII.

FORMULAS.

SECTION I.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.[1]

When at any meeting there are persons who desire to unite with the Church, the officiating minister shall call the applicants forward and address them as follows:

DEAR FRIENDS: Inasmuch as you present yourselves for admission into the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, we rejoice with you that through the grace of God you have been brought to a knowledge of the truth, and have been made partakers of his great salvation. The privileges you seek are above price, and the duties enjoined are solemn. It is proper that you publicly confess your faith and avow your purpose by answering the following questions:

Questions to applicants:

(1) Do you believe the Bible to be the word of God, and that therein only is contained the knowledge of the way of salvation?

(2) Have you experienced the pardon of your sins, and have you now peace with God?

(3) Are you determined by the grace of God to follow Christ, renouncing the world and all ungodliness, seeking to lead a life of holiness and devotion to God and his cause?

(4) Are you willing to be governed by our Church Discipline, and will you contribute to the support of the gŏspel as God prospers you?

(5) Have you been baptized?

[1] See p. 19.

If the answer to this question be in the negative, then the applicant shall be instructed to attend to the duty as soon as practicable.

Then the members of the church will stand, and the minister may read this response of the church:

"We, the members of this church, do cordially receive you into our communion and fellowship, and promise to walk with you in love, and to watch over you, instruct, counsel, admonish, and cherish you with all long-suffering, gentleness, and love. Dear friends, do you all thus covenant before the Lord? If so, answer, 'We do.' "

Section II.

THE BAPTISM OF ADULTS.

Our Lord commanded his apostles, saying, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matt. 28: 19). On the day of Pentecost, the multitude, under the preaching of the word, "were pricked in the heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the Apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2: 37, 38).

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2: 41).

Philip, the evangelist, went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ to the people. And "when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women" (Acts 8: 12).

Dearly beloved, it has pleased God, in his infinite mercy, to awaken you to a sense of your guilt and danger, and to lead you, as we humbly trust, to repentance and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. By presenting yourself for this holy sacrament, you declare your purpose to lead a new life, and to seek an inheritance with the righteous in the "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Do you then solemnly consecrate yourself to Christ and his service; and will you endeavor henceforth to keep God's

holy commandments and to walk in the same all the days of your life? If so, answer, "I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper."

The minister shall then baptize the candidate, the service to be concluded with a short prayer and benediction.

Section III.

THE BAPTISM OF CHILDREN.

"And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them" (Mark 10: 13-16).

In presenting this child for baptism, you not only signify your faith in the Christian religion, of which baptism is an ordinance, but also your desire that he [or she] may early know and follow the will of God, may live and die a Christian, and attain unto everlasting life.

In order to do this, it will be your duty as parents [or guardians] to teach him [or her] early the fear of the Lord; to watch over his [or her] education, that he [or she] be not led astray; to direct his [or her] youthful mind to the Holy Scriptures, and his [or her] feet to the sanctuary; to restrain him [or her] from evil associates and habits; and as much as in you lies, to bring him [or her] up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Will you endeavor so to do, by the help of God? If so, answer, "I will."

The minister shall then baptize the child, repeating the full name of the same, saying:

I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

All to be followed by a short prayer by the minister.

Section IV.

THE HOLY COMMUNION.

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath born our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53: 3-5).

"And when the hour was come, he sat down and the twelve apostles with him. And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: for I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: for I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22: 14-20).

"For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (I. Cor. 11: 23-26).

As many of you as truly love our Lord Jesus Christ are now invited to draw near, and humbly receive these elements in memory of the suffering and death of your Lord and Saviour.

Singing.

Prayer.

Administration of the elements.

Section V.

Ordination of Elders.

[On the day appointed for ordination services a suitable sermon shall be preached, whenever practicable.] The officiating bishop (or elder in the absence of a bishop) shall call, if they be present, one or more elders to assist him in the ceremonies of ordination.]

1. ADDRESS TO THE CANDIDATES.

After the names of the candidates have been read aloud, the bishop (or elder) shall address them as follows:

An elder "must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre: but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers" (Tit. 1: 7-9).

Are you assured that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon you the office of the ministry to serve God in the church of Christ to the honor and glory of his holy name? If so, answer, "I trust I am."

Do you believe the Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments? If so, answer, "I do believe them."

Will you apply due diligence to frame and fashion your life according to the doctrines of Christ, and to make yourself, as much as in you lies, a wholesome example to the flock of Christ? If so, answer, "I will, the Lord being my helper."

Will you loyally maintain the doctrines and polity of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and devote yourself with all possible zeal and faithfulness to the extension of the Master's kingdom in whatever field you may be assigned from time to time in the ministerial service? If so, answer, "I will endeavor, through the grace of God, to do so."

2. PRAYER.

By the officiating bishop.

3. CHARGE TO THE CANDIDATES

After the prayer the bishop and elders shall lay their hands upon the heads of each of them, and the bishop shall say:

Take thou authority to execute the office of an elder

in the church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hereupon the bishop or elder shall deliver to each of them the Holy Bible, saying:

Take thou authority to preach the word of God and to administer the ordinances in the church of Christ.

4. PRAYER.

By the bishop or one of the elders.

5. SCRIPTURE ADMONITION.

After the prayer the bishop shall read Luke 12: 35-38.

"Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching; verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants."

6. BENEDICTION.

The following benediction is to be pronounced:

The peace of God keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SECTION VI.

LAYING CORNER-STONE.

The officiating minister shall say:

BELOVED: In ancient time God commanded his servant Moses to set up the tabernacle in the wilderness, and bestowed his blessing upon Solomon, the king, in erecting the temple in Jerusalem, whither the tribes came up to worship. In like manner he has moved your hearts to erect a sanctuary, where, in years to come, his people may assemble for

prayer and praise. We have met together at this time to lay the corner-stone with proper religious services.

The following order of services may then be observed:

1. *Singing.*
2. *Reading of Scripture.* (Ps. 132; I. Cor. 3: 8-23.)
3. *Prayer.*
4. *Singing.*
5. *Sermon or address.*
6. *Collection.*
7. *Laying of stone.*

The minister, standing by the stone, shall exhibit the box to be deposited, and read the list of contents. Then the minister, assisted by the builder, shall deposit the box and adjust the stone to its resting-place. This done, the minister shall strike the stone thrice with a trowel, or hammer, and say:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we lay this corner-stone in the foundation of a house to be erected and dedicated for the worship of God, wherein his word shall be preached and his worship maintained. Amen.

8. *Singing.*
9. *Benediction.*

Section VII.

CHURCH DEDICATION.

The following order of service may be used:

1. *Scripture reading.* (Ps. 84; or, Isa. 62 and Ps. 122.)
2. *Singing.*
3. *Prayer.*
4. *Singing.*
5. *Sermon.*
6. *Offering.*
7. *Singing.*
8. *Scripture reading, with congregation standing.*

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven, and heaven of heavens, cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded? Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplica-

tion, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee to-day: that thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive.

"If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house: then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.

"When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house: then hear thou in heaven and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers.

"When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them: then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance.

"If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpiller; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be; what prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house: then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;) that they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

"Moreover, concerning a stranger that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; (for they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house; hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all thy people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name" (I. Kings 8: 27-43).

"We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool" (Ps. 132: 7).

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it. I will abundantly bless her provision; I will satisfy her poor with bread. I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy" (Ps. 132: 13-16).

"Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O Lord God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness" (II. Chr. 6: 40, 41).

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen. Praise ye the Lord" (Ps. 106: 48).

9. Charge to the trustees.

10. Delivery of the keys in the name of the Trinity to hold in trust for God and the United Brethren in Christ.

11. Doxology.

12. Benediction.

Section VIII.

The Marriage Ceremony.

The minister shall say:

We are gathered together in the sight of God and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together *N.* and *M.* as husband and wife. The institution of marriage is coeval with the family of man. God saw that it was not good for man to be alone even in paradise, and formed and gave to him woman, that she might be a "help meet for him." This

union, like that of the body and soul, is only to be severed by the hand of death.

Here the minister may say:

If any person present knows any just cause or impediment why these persons should not be joined in marriage, let the same now speak or forever keep silent.

No impediment being alleged, the minister, addressing the persons to be married, shall further say:

Deeming it sufficient to refer you to the Holy Scriptures concerning the duties you will henceforth owe to each other, I will proceed to receive your mutual plighted faith, and seal your marriage vows.

To the man:

Will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live with her after God's ordinance; will you love, honor, comfort, and cherish her, in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, keep yourself to her only, so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

To the woman:

Will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live with him after God's ordinance; will you love, honor, comfort, and cherish him, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and adversity, and forsaking all others, keep yourself unto him only, so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

The minister shall then join their right hands, and placing his right hand upon theirs, shall say:

Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. Inasmuch as you have consented together in marriage, and have declared the same before God and in the presence of these witnesses, I pronounce you husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The minister may then offer a brief extempore prayer, to be followed by this benediction:

May God the gracious Father bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord, mercifully, with his favor, look upon you,

and fill you with all spiritual blessings and grace, that you may so live together in this life that in the world to come you may have everlasting life. Amen.

Section IX.

MARRIAGE CEREMONY WITH RING.

The minister shall say:

Dearly beloved, we are here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to unite together these two persons in holy marriage. They have passed satisfactorily the tests and requirements of the family, of the state, and of the church, and now stand unchallenged in this presence to be admitted into the holy state commanded by the Word of God, to be had in honor among all men.

It is becoming that this marriage relation be entered into discreetly, reverently, advisedly, soberly, and in the fear of God. I, therefore, a minister of the blessed gospel, entreat you both to seek the help of God, in this moment and in all your privileges and duties, that his love and grace may make your union fruitful of comfort and usefulness, and a furtherance of your salvation and everlasting life.

To the man:

Do you take this woman before God and these witnesses to be your wife? If so, answer, "I do."

Do you promise to love and honor her, defend, support, and comfort her, in health and in sickness, in joy and in sorrow, in prosperity and adversity? If so, answer, "I do."

Will you be faithful to her in all things, and endeavor to be a good husband to her so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

To the woman:

Do you take this man, before God and these witnesses, to be your husband? If so, answer, "I do."

Do you promise to love, honor, and comfort him, in joy and in sorrow, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and adversity? If so, answer, "I do."

Will you be faithful to him in all things, and endeavor to be a good wife to him so long as you both shall live? If so, answer, "I will."

What token and pledge do you offer that you will faithfully perform these covenant vows?

The man shows the ring, holding it in his right hand, and answers:

This ring.

The minister shall say to the woman:

Do you accept this ring in token of the same covenant upon your part? If so, answer, "I do."

Then the man, the minister guiding his right hand, shall place the ring on the third finger of her left hand, and the minister shall say:

Let us pray.

He may offer an extempore prayer, or use the following:

Our Father which art in heaven, thou hast recorded the promises of these thy servants now made to each other. We entreat thee to unite their hearts and lives in the bond of a true and abiding affection, that they may share all the blessings of a happy marriage. May their lives be preserved from evil, and their love know no doubt, but grow in purity and sweetness with the number of their years. Bestow upon them the Holy Spirit and true heavenly wisdom, that they may be preserved from all things which have a tendency to diminish the happiness of this holy estate. Enable them by thy grace to live together according to thy holy will, and may they at last enter into eternal life and fellowship with thy saints in the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the minister request them to join their right hands; the minister, laying his right hand upon theirs, shall say to them:

Inasmuch as you have covenanted together in these sacred bonds, and have witnessed the same by this token, I pronounce you husband and wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

What therefore God hath joined together let no man put asunder.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." Amen.

Section X.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

After the coffin is lowered into the grave, the minister shall repeat the following:

"Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not." "Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am."

In the midst of life we are in death; unto whom should we seek for succor but unto thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased? Our hope is in thy Son Jesus Christ, who hath said, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

"And I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

"There shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Inasmuch as God in his wise providence has called out of time into eternity the soul of our brother [sister, or child], we commit his [or her] remains to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in the confident hope of the general resurrection through our Lord Jesus Christ, at his coming and glory; that this corruptible body shall be raised up and be fashioned like unto the glorious body of Christ, be reunited with the soul, and be received into everlasting habitations. Amen.

Benediction.

Section XI.

In case the Apostles' Creed or Lord's Prayer be used in any of our services, the following forms may be used:

The Lord's Prayer.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in

heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades. The third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Forms.

Section I.

certificates and licenses.

1. Certificate of Transfer of Member.

This is to certify that A. B. is an acceptable member of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at ——— Class, ——— Charge, ——— Conference, and is hereby transferred to ——— Society, of ——— Charge, ——— Conference.

.....Pastor.

[Date, etc.]

2. Certificate of Membership.

This is to certify that A. B. is a member in good standing of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at ———, and is hereby recommended to the confidence and fellowship of Christians everywhere.

.....Pastor.

[Date, etc.]

3. Certificate of Withdrawal.

This is to certify that A. B. has been until this date a member in good standing of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, at ————, and at —— request is granted this letter of withdrawal and recommendation from the Church by a vote of the class.

.....Pastor.

[Date, etc.]

4. License for Quarterly-Conference Preacher.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved preacher of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ,

as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ, as held by this Church. Given at a quarterly conference, held on ——— charge, this —— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———. Subject to renewal annually.

.....P. E.

[Date, etc.]

5. License for Exhorter.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved exhorter of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ, as held by this Church. Given at a quarterly conference, held on ——— charge, this ——— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———. Subject to renewal annually.

.....P. E.

[Date, etc.]

6. Permanent License for Quarterly-Conference Preacher.

This is to certify that ——— has completed the course of reading required, and is hereby granted a permanent license as a quarterly-conference preacher in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

.....P. E.

[Date, etc.]

7. Annual-Conference Preacher's License.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved preacher of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with the gospel of Christ. Given at an annual conference, held in ———, this —— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———. Signed in behalf of said conference.

.....Bishop.

[Date, etc.]

8. Elder's License.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved preacher of the gospel in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, as long as his conduct and doctrine are conformable with

the gospel of Christ, and has been ordained to the office of elder by the laying on of hands.

Given at an annual conference held in ——— this —— day of ——— in the year of our Lord ———.

Signed and sealed in behalf of said conference.

.....Bishop.

[Date, etc.]

9. Transfer of Preacher.

This is to certify that ——— is a ——— of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ of ——— Conference, and is hereby transferred to ——— Conference of said Church.

.....Bishop.

[Date, etc.]

10. Deaconess' Certificate.

This is to certify that ——— is an approved deaconess in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

Authorized by the ——— quarterly conference.

.....Pres. Board.

..... Sec. Board.

Section II.

BEQUESTS.

11. Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society.

I give and bequeath to the Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, organized by the General Conference of said Church, May 20, 1853, and incorporated in Butler County, Ohio, September 23, 1854, the sum of ——— dollars; and the receipt of the treasurer of the society shall be a sufficient discharge thereof to my executors and administrators.

[Name].....

12. The Church-Erection Society.

I bequeath to the Church-Erection Society of the United Brethren in Christ the sum of ——— dollars, to be invested according to the constitution of this society.

[Name].....

13. Woman's Missionary Association.

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren in Christ, the sum of ——— dollars, to be applied to the purposes set forth in the Articles of Incorporation adopted March 28, 1890.

[Name].....

14. Church Trustees.

I give, devise, and bequeath to the "Trustees of the United Brethren in Christ," an incorporation located at Dayton, Ohio, for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ,

..... Dollars,

to be applied as follows:

(Here state precisely the purpose for which the bequest is made, or say, "to be used at the discretion of said trustees to promote the cause of Christianity in said Church.")

[Name].....

15. Union Biblical Seminary.

I give and bequeath to the Union Biblical Seminary of the United Brethren in Christ, located at Dayton, Ohio, authorized by the General Conference of said Church in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, May 2, 1869, and incorporated according to the laws of Ohio, the sum of ——— dollars; and the receipt of the business manager shall be a sufficient discharge thereof to my executors.

[Name].....

SECTION III.

REPORTS.

16. Pastor's Quarterly Report.

QUARTERLY REPORT, ... ANNUAL CONFERENCE, UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST.

.....District. .....Circuit. .....Mission. .....Quarter. ..... 190..	CLASSES OR FIELDS OF LABOR.									
	Salem.	Bethel.	Shiloh.	Union.	Liberty.	Zion.	Fairview.	Carmel.	Etc.	Totals.
Members received.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Members lost.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Members at present.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Baptisms	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Discourses preached.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pastoral visits.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Class-meetings held.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pastor's salary	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Presiding Elder's salary..	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Telescopes.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Woman's Evangels.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Watchwords	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Search Lights.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Quarterly Reviews.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Collected for missions....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Collected for ch. expenses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Collected for.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Collected for.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Collected for.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Collected for.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

.....Pastor.

[The blanks can be filled out to suit either pastor or presiding elder, as the presiding elder would simply give the total column of each work.]

17. Sabbath-School Superintendent's Report.

.....*Sabbath School,* .....*Quarter.*

.....[Date.]

1. Number of officers and teachers .....
2. Number of scholars enrolled .....
   (*a*) General Department .....
   (*b*) Home Dpartment .....
3. Average attendance .....
4. *Children's Friends* .....
5. *Lessons for the Little Ones.* .....

6. *Quarterlies* .....
7. *Bible Teachers* .....
8. Amount of collections .....
9. Expenses of the quarter .....
10. Contributions for missions .....
11. Remarks

.....Superintendent.

18. Report of President of Young People's Society.

.....*Class,* .....*Quarter.*

.....[Date.]

1. Number of members at beginning of quarter:
   Active ..... Associate .....
2. Members received .....
3. Members lost .....
4. Present membership .....
5. Number associate members converted .....
6. Number meetings held .....
7. Number *Watchwords* taken .....
8. Funds collected .....
9. For what purposes .....
10. Remarks.

.....President.

19. Class-Leader's Report.

.....*Class,* .....*Quarter.*

.....[Date.]

1. Number of members .....
2. Number of meetings held .....
3. Average attendance .....
4. Number of sick and delinquent members visited ....

.....Class-Leader.

20. Contribution Card.

.....*Church.* .....[Date.]

I hereby agree to pay to the order of the treasurer of ——— Church the sum of ——— weekly, during the year beginning ————, for pastor's salary and other church expenses.

[Signed] .....

21. Class-Steward's Report.

.....Class, ...Quarter.

.....[Date.]

1. Apportionment for year .....
2. Amount due at end of quarter .....
3. Amount paid .....
4. Deficit .....
5. Surplus .....

.....Steward.

22. Annual Report of Treasurer of Board of Church or Parsonage Trustees.

1. *Receipts.*	*Dols.*	*Cts.*
(1) By subscriptions	.....	....
(2) By donations	.....	....
(3) Interest	.....	....
(4) Collections	.....	....
(5) Rents	.....	....
Total receipts	.....	....

2. *Disbursements.*	*Dols.*	*Cts.*
(1) Erection of ——Church at——	.....	....
(2) Paid on debt—		
(*a*) Principal	.....	....
(*b*) Interest	.....	....
(3) Paid for repairs	.....	....
(4) For improvements	.....	....
Total disbursements	.....	....

3. *Indebtedness.*	*Dols.*	*Cts.*
(1) Principal	.....	....
(2) Interest	.....	....
(3) Bills unpaid	.....	....
Total indebtedness	.....	....

4. Number of meetings held.....
5. Remarks.....

.....Treasurer.

G. M. Mathews and W. R. Funk were made a committee to edit the new Discipline. (See page 420, General Conference Report.)

It is hereby declared that all laws and parts of laws in the United Breth en Discipline which are not in harmony with the acts of this General Conference are hereby repealed. (See page 612, General Conference Report.)

It was ordered that this new Discipline shall go into effect on and after the 15th day of August, 1901. (See page 478, General Conference Report.)

INDEX.

ABSENT voters for General Conference delegates, 39.
Absentees from annual conference, 37.
Academies, 130.
Agent of Printing Establishment:
    duties of, 124.
    election of, 123.
Aid:
    from Board of Education to students, 129.
    from Church-Erection Society, 120.
    from General Sunday-School Board, how obtained, 89.
Allegheny Conference, boundary of, 141.
Amenability of certified members, 28.
Annual Conference:
    absentees from, 37.
    address and sermon at, 55.
    appeals from, 75, 76.
    appeals to, 35, 75.
    authority of, 37.
    bishop *pro tempore*, 36.
    boundaries, 16, 141.
    devotions, 36.
    division into fields of labor, 61.
    electioneering forbidden, 37.
    examination of, 16, 41.
    examination of preachers, 36.
    lay representation in, 36.
    members of, 36.
    order of business at, 37.
    presiding officers, 36, 53.
    questions to be asked, 37.
    secretaries, 36.
    sermon and address at, 55.
    Sunday-school secretary and treasurer, 90.
    trial of preachers, 56.
Apostles' Creed, 165.
Appeals:
    court of, 75.
    from annual conference, 75, 76.

from class, 26, 75.
from quarterly conference, 35, 75.
from stationing committee, 61.
right of, 17, 26.
to quarterly conference, 34.
Applicants for Church membership:
committee to examine, 20.
questions to, 19.
Apportionment to members, 35.
Arkansas Valley Conference, boundary of, 141.
Authorship of doctrinal publications, 126.

Baptism:
doctrine of, 13.
formula, for adults, 153.
for children, 154.
upon admission into the Church, 20.
Beneficiary aid:
collections for, 129.
object, 128.
recommendations for, 129.
Benevolent and Educational Institutions, 103.
Bequests:
forms of, 168.
General Board of Church Trustees, 86.
Missionary Society, 107.
Woman's Missionary Association, 109.
Bishops:
address and sermon, 55.
announcement of representation in the General Conference, 38.
annual meeting of, 54.
attendance at conference, 53, 54.
connection with educational work, 55.
districts of, 140.
duties of, 16, 53, 54, 107.
election of, 16, 53.
eligibility to office of, 16.
organization of mission conferences, 55.
presiding at conferences, 54.
Pro tempore, 36.
reports of, 55.
residences of, 53.
salaries of, 53.
special sessions of conference, 54.
stationing preachers, 54.
supervision of foreign work, 55.
vacancy in office of, 55.

Board of Education, 16, 127.
Boards of Trustees, 42.
Book Committee, 125.
Boundaries, 140.
  annual conference, 141.
  bishops' districts, 140.
Branch missionary societies:
  constituted, how, 106.
  contributions to, 106.
  secretary and treasurer of, 106.
Branch society W. M. A., constitution of, 111.
Building of church-houses and parsonages, 82.
Burial of the dead, formula for, 164.

California Conference, boundary of, 141.
Central District, bishops', 140.
Certificates:
  of deaconess, form of, 168.
  of membership, form of, 166.
  of transfer of member, form of, 166.
  of transfer of preacher, form of, 168.
  of withdrawal, form of, 166.
Chickamauga Mission District, 151.
Children, home training of, 64.
China Mission District, 151.
Christian Stewardship Commission, 102.
Church:
  government of, 29.
  origin of, 7.
  trustees of, 86.
Church Clerk, 31.
Church-Erection Society:
  application for aid, 120.
  apportionment and division of funds, 119.
  conference branches, 119.
  constitution of, 118.
  duty of the ministry, 121.
  insurance for security of, 121.
  loans, 120.
  object of, 118.
  officers of, 118.
    duties of, 118.
  parsonage fund, 121.
  under control of General Conference, 16.
Church-houses:
  abandoned, 84.
  appointing trustees, 82.
  building of, 82.

conditions of mortgages and liens, 84.
duties of trustees, 82.
formula for dedication of, 158.
plans for, 85.
real estate, 85.
sale and rent of, 83.
transfer of, 84.
vacancies in board of trustees, 82.
Church records, 62.
Church Treasurer, general, 42.
Circulating Church literature, duty of, 62.
Classes:
disbanding, 29.
division of church into, 29.
local church organization, 29.
Classification of ministry:
classes, 48.
how determined, 49.
Class-leaders:
dismissal of, 30.
duties of, 30.
election of, 29.
holding meetings, 30.
in election of General Conference delegates, 39.
in trials, 26.
qualifications of, 30.
records of, 27, 30.
report, form of, 171.
visiting sick and delinquent, 30.
Class-stewards:
appointment of, 30.
dismissal of, 31.
duties of, 31.
in election of General Conference delegates, 39.
Collections:
general, 63.
missionary, 63.
College-extension courses, 132.
Colleges:
establishment of, 129.
rules relating to, 131.
standard of courses for, 131.
Colorado Conference, boundary of, 141.
Columbia River Conference, boundary of, 141.
Committees:
for examination of elders, 50.
for trial of annual-conference preachers, 56.
for trial of quarterly-conference preachers, 56.

for trial of members, 25.
Conference:
annual, *see* Annual Conference.
General, *see* General Conference.
quarterly, *see* Quarterly Conference.
Confession of Faith, 12, 16.
of the Christian Sabbath, 14.
of the Church, 13.
of creation and providence, 12.
of depravity, 13.
of the future state, 14.
of God and the Holy Trinity, 12.
of the Holy Ghost, 12.
of the Holy Scriptures, 13.
of Jesus Christ, 12.
of justification, 14.
of regeneration and adoption, 14.
of the sacraments, 13.
of sanctification, 14.
Constitution of Church, 15.
Contests, 40.
Contribution card, formula for, 171.
Corner-stone laying, formula for, 157.
Courses of reading and study:
for annual-conference preachers, 71.
for German preachers, 72.
for quarterly-conference preachers, 45, 69.
completing the course, 74.
examinations, 69, 70.
preparation for the ministry, 74.
Courses of study in the colleges:
extension courses, 132.
standard of, 131.
Court of appeals, 16, 75.

Deaconesses, 66.
certificate, form of, 168.
consecration of, 68.
course of study, 67.
deaconess homes, 68.
in local churches, 66.
Dead, formula for burial of, 164.
Dedication of churches, formula for, 158.
Delegates to the General Conference:
expenses of, 41.
how elected, 38.
Des Moines Conference, boundary of, 142.

Disbanding classes, 29.
Discipline:
power to repeal, 15.
editors of, 172.
Dismissals:
of class-leaders, 30.
of class-stewards, 31.
of members, 28.
of Sunday-school superintendent, 91.
Divorce and divorced persons, rule regarding, 81.

East District, bishops', 140.
Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, boundary of, 142.
East Nebraska Conference, boundary of, 142.
East Ohio Conference, boundary of, 142.
East Tennessee Conference, boundary of, 142.
Education:
academies, 130.
Board of, *see* Education, Board of.
colleges, *see* Colleges.
college-extension courses, 132.
Union Biblical Seminary, *see* Union Biblical Seminary.
Education, Board of:
beneficiary aid, 128.
collections for, 129.
constitution of, 127.
delinquents, 130.
executive committee of, 130.
general aim, 128.
objects of, 128.
officers of, 127.
publications, 128.
recommendations to, 129.
report of, 130.
reports and recommendations, 128.
Educational institutions, *see* Education.
Educational sermon required, 129.
Elders:
duties of, 51.
in the General Conference, 15.
election to orders, 51.
examining committee, duties of, 50.
examination of candidates for orders, 50.
ordination of, 50, 54.
formula for, 156.
questions regarding candidates, 50.
special provisions, 50.
who are, 48.

Election of General Conference delegates:
conference representation, 38.
publication of results, 40.
returns of, 40.
Electioneering forbidden, 37.
Erie Conference, boundary of, 143.
Estimating committee, 35.
Evangelists:
authorized, 49.
work of, 64.
Examinations:
of annual conferences, 16, 41.
of preachers regarding life, 36.
Exchange of pastors by presiding elder, 53.
Exhorters:
duties of, 43.
how licensed, 34, 43.
renewal of license, 43.
trial of, 56.
Expelled preachers not to be received, 47.
Expulsion:
of annual-conference preachers, 57.
of quarterly-conference preachers, 56.

FAMILY piety, 21.
Fast days, 54.
Forms:
Apostles' Creed, 165.
bequests, to Board of Church Trustees, 169.
to Church-Erection Society, 168.
to Missionary Society, 168.
to Union Biblical Seminary, 169.
to Woman's Missionary Association, 169.
certificates and licenses, 166.
certificate of membership, 166.
of transfer of member, 166.
of withdrawal, 166.
for a deaconess, 168.
class-leader's report, 171.
class-steward's report, 172.
contribution card, 171.
license, for annual-conference preachers, 167.
for elder, 167.
for exhorter, 167.
for quarterly-conference preachers, 166.
for quarterly-conference preachers—permanent, 167.
pastor's quarterly report, 170.
report of president of young people's society, 171.

Sabbath-school superintendent's report, 170.
transfer of preachers, 168.
treasurer's report of Board of Church Trustees, 172.
Formulas:
baptism, of adults, 153.
of children, 154.
burial of the dead, 164.
church dedication, 158.
holy communion, 155.
laying of corner-stone, 157.
marriage ceremony, 160.
with ring, 162.
ordination of elders, 156.
reception of members into the Church, 152.

General Conference:
absent voters for delegates, 39.
appeals to, 76.
bishops' announcement of representation, 38.
boundaries of annual conferences, 16.
canvassing and publication of returns, 40.
composition of, 15, 38.
contests, 40.
duties of, 15.
election boards, 39.
election, of delegates to, 15, 38.
of officers, 42.
election returns, 40.
entertainment of, 41.
examination of annual conferences, 41.
expenses of delegates, 41.
lists of nominees and blanks, 39.
location of, 41.
members of, 15, 38.
nomination, of lay delegates, 38.
of ministerial delegates, 38.
number of annual conferences, 16.
power, 16.
presiding officers of, 16, 54.
quorum, 15.
representation in, 38.
tellers to count votes for delegates, 39.
time of convening, 15.
General Church Treasurer, 42.
General steward:
how elected, 34.
member of quarterly conference, 33.
German churches, transfer to English and *vice versa*, 84.

Germany Conference, boundary of, 143.
Government of the Church, 29.

Historical Society:
constitution, 136.
General Conference, recognition of, 136.
members of, 137.
officers of, 137, 138.
property of, 138.
History of the Church, outline of, 7.
Home, Frontier, and Foreign Missionary Society, *see* Missionary Society, Home, Frontier, and Foreign.
Home missions, 107.
Home training of children, 64.

Illinois Conference, boundary of, 143.
Incorporation of boards of trustees:
for church houses and parsonages, 83.
for general church property, 85.
Indiana Conference, boundary of, 143.
Institutions for Christian Instruction and Training, 87.
Insurance of church property, 83, 121.
Iowa Conference, boundary of, 144.
Itinerancy, 17, 60.
Itinerants, *see* Preachers, itinerant.

Japan Mission Conference, 144.

Kentucky Mission District, 151.

Lay delegates:
in the annual conferences, 36.
in the General Conference, 15, 38.
Leaders, class-, *see* Class-leaders.
License:
granting:
to annual-conference preachers, 46.
to exhorters, 34, 43.
to preachers by quarterly conference, 34, 43.
to women, 46.
permanent license, 70.
renewal of:
exhorter's, 43.
quarterly-conference preacher's, 45.
Licentiates:
probation of, 50.
who they are, 49.
Limit of certificate of members, 28.

Limit of transfer of preachers, 48.
Literature:
circulation of general church, 62.
in Sunday schools, 92.
Loans of Church-Erection Society, 120.
Local preachers, *see* Preachers, local.
Lord's Prayer, 164.
Lord's Supper:
doctrine of, 13.
formula for, 155.
preparation for, 31.
presiding elder to administer, 51.
Louisiana Conference, boundary of, 144.
Lower Wabash Conference, boundary of, 144.

Marriage:
formula for, 160, 162.
marriage relation, 81.
who may solemnize, 57.
Members of Church:
acceptance of applicants, 20.
amenability of those having certificates, 28.
apportionments to, 35.
confession, 21.
delinquent members, 22.
dismissal of, 28.
duties of, 21.
duty of obedience, 24.
limit of certificate, 28.
love to others, 21.
means of grace, 21.
obedience to government, 22.
preacher's responsibility in reception of, 20.
questions to applicants, 19.
receiving persons from other churches, 20.
reception of, 19.
seceding, 78.
seekers, 20.
support of general interests, 23.
transfer of, 27.
form for, 166.
trial of, 25.
Membership, ministry, and government of the Church, 19.
Miami Conference, boundary of, 144.
Michigan Conference, boundary of, 145.
Ministry of Church:
annual-conference preachers, *see* Preachers, annual-conference.

bishops, *see* Bishops.
classification of, 48.
elders, *see* Elders.
exhorters, *see* Exhorters.
marriage, who may solemnize, 57.
preachers' duties in general, 58.
preparation for, 74.
presiding elders, *see* Presiding elders.
quarterly-conference preachers, *see* Preachers, quarterly-conference.
reception of preachers from other churches, 48.
trial of preachers, *see* Trials.
Minnesota Conference, boundary of, 145.
Mission conferences, organization of, 55.
Mission districts, 105.
boundaries of, 151.
Missionaries:
duties of, 105.
salaries of, 105.
Missionary Association, Woman's, *see* Woman's Missionary Association.
Missionary Society, Home, Frontier, and Foreign:
bequests to, 107.
form of, 168.
board of directors, 104.
branch officers, 106.
branch societies, 106.
branch societies' control of home missions, 107.
conference conventions, 105.
constitution, 103.
contributions, object designated, 106.
formation of self-supporting conferences, 107.
home missions, 107.
life directors and members of, 103.
local societies, 107.
mission districts, 105.
officers, 103.
duties of, 104.
Sabbath schools as auxiliary to, 91.
thank-offering for, 105.
treasurers' security, 107.
under control of General Conference, 16.
unoccupied territory, 107.
Missouri Conference, boundary of, 145.
Moral reform, 79.
Moving the preacher, 65.

Neosho Conference, boundary of, 145.

New schools, formation of, 129.
New South, boundary of, 145.
Nonconformity to the world, 23.
Northeast Kansas Conference, boundary of, 145.
Northern Illinois Conference, boundary of, 146.
North Nebraska Conference, boundary of, 146.
Northwest Kansas Conference, boundary of, 146.

Oaths, 80.
Official boards:
duties of, 32.
members of, 31.
revision of records by, 32.
Ohio District, bishops', 140.
Ohio German Conference, boundary of, 147.
Oklahoma Conference, boundary of, 147.
Old people's home, 42.
Ontario Conference, boundary of, 147.
Orders, election to elders', 51.
Ordination:
of elders, 50, 54.
formula for, 156.
Oregon Conference, boundary of, 147.
Origin of the Church, 7.

Parsonages:
abandoned, 84.
building of, 82.
conditions of mortgages and liens, 84.
conference or district property, 85.
division of interest in, 85.
duty of churches to provide, 65.
real estate, 85.
sale or rent of, 83.
trustees of, 82.
Pastor:
collections for, 30.
duties of, *see* Preachers, itinerant,—duties of, 61.
duty of members to receive, 23.
resignation of, 60.
Pastoral charges, 61.
Pastoral visiting, 64.
Pennsylvania Conference, boundary of, 147.
Poor, care of, 23.
Preachers:
annual-conference:
accountability of, 48.
church membership of preachers, 28.

classification of, 48.
course of reading for, 71.
elders, *see* Elders.
evangelists, 49, 64.
examination of, 45.
exemption from examination, 47.
expelled preacher, 47.
form of license, 167.
how received, 45.
itinerants, *see* Preachers, itinerant.
license of women, 46.
licentiates, 49.
limit of transfer, 48.
local preachers, 17, 49.
membership in church required, 28.
qualifications of, 46.
questions to, 37.
transfer of, 47.
trial of, 56.
general duties, 58.
preachers not to trespass, 58.
itinerant:
circulation of literature, 62.
classification of, 48.
collections by, 63.
defined, 49.
dismissal of appointments, 63.
duties of, 61.
in the transfer of members, 27.
to Sunday schools, 90.
to the poor, 23.
employment of other than itinerants, 61.
examination by annual conference, 37.
how constituted, 60.
membership in church required, 28.
moving of, 65.
pastoral charges, 61.
pastoral visiting, 64.
power to change, 53.
records of, 63.
reports of, 62, 170.
resignation of, 60.
revision of records, 62.
salaries of, 64.
stationing of, 60.
appeal from, 61.
stewards' duties regarding, 31.
superannuated, 49, 65.

supernumerary, 49.
support of, 22, 64.
withdrawal of, 60.
local:
defined, 49.
voting of, 17.
quarterly conference:
course of reading for, 45, 69.
examination of, 44, 69.
license of, 43.
recommendation to annual conference, 45.
renewal of license, 34, 45.
required to hold church membership, 28.
trial of, 34, 56.
restrictions upon, 58.
Presiding elders:
duties of, 52, 122.
in election of General Conference delegates, 39.
regarding incorporation of church trustees, 52.
regarding young people's societies, 52.
election of, 51.
power to dismiss pastors, 53.
power to exchange pastors, 53.
reports of, 52.
stationing of, 51.
support of, 51.
vacancies filled, 52.
Presiding-elder steward, 30, 31.
Printing Establishment:
election of officers, 123.
employment of time, 125.
local committee, 123.
name, 123.
proceeds of, 125.
publishing agent, 124.
trustees—election and duties, 123.
under control of General Conference, 16.
vacancies, 125.
Property:
church-houses and parsonages, 82.
of General Board of Church Trustees, 86.
title to, 17.
Publications, Church, 125.
Publishing House, *see* Printing Establishment.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE:
appeal to annual conference, 35.
appeals and trials, 34.

apportionment to members, 35.
duties and powers of, 33.
estimating committee appointed by the, 35.
examination of applicants for license, 44.
general steward appointed by, 34.
licensing, of exhorters, 34, 43.
of preachers, 34, 43.
members of, 33.
place of meeting, 35.
quorum for transaction of business, 33.
recommending preachers to annual conference, 34, 45.
renewing licenses, 34, 45.
reviewing acts of official board, 33.
trial by, 56.

REAL estate for church purposes, 85.
Records:
church, 63.
of class-leaders, 30.
of trials, 27.
revision of, 62.
Reorganization of classes, 62.
Reports:
of bishops, 55.
of pastors, 62, 170.
of presiding elders, 52.
of proceedings of General Conference authorized, 125.
Representation in the General Conference, 15, 38.
Resignation of pastors, 60.
Revision of church records, 62.

SABBATH observance, 14, 22, 79.
Sabbath-School Board, General:
annual collections for, 88.
annual-conference relations, 90.
appropriations, 89.
Children's Day, to provide for, 88.
composition of, 87.
constitution of, 87.
duties and powers, 88.
object, 87.
officers, duties of, 89.
under control of General Conference, 16.
Sabbath schools, 87:
collections for missions in, 91.
constitution for, 92.
duties of superintendent, 91.
duty of members toward, 22.

form of superintendent's report, 170.
organization of, 90.
pastor's relation to, 90.
relation to missionary work, 91.
Sacraments:
baptism and the Lord's Supper, 13.
formulas for administering, 153, 154, 155.
Salaries:
of bishops, 53.
of church-erection secretary, 119.
of editors, 123.
of missionaries, 65, 105.
of missionary secretary and treasurer, 104.
of pastors, 64.
of presiding elders, 51.
of publishing agent, 123.
Sandusky Conference, boundary of, 148.
Seceding members, 78.
Secret combinations:
constitutional provision, 17.
law on, 80.
Secretaries of annual conferences, 36.
Security of missionary treasurers, 107.
Seekers, 20.
Seminary graduates, 74.
Sermons, special:
by bishops, 55.
on education, 129.
on missions, 63.
Singing, 21.
Slavery, 17, 80.
Southeast Ohio Conference, boundary of, 148.
Special rules, 79.
St. Joseph Conference, boundary of, 149.
Stationing committee:
appeal from, 61.
for bishops, 53.
for pastors, 60.
for presiding elders, 51.
time of reporting, 61.
Stewards, *see* Class-stewards, General steward, and Presiding-elder steward.
Superannuated ministers:
itinerants, 49.
support of, 65.
Superintendents of Sunday schools:
dismissal of, 91.
elected by the school, 90.

election by quarterly conference provided for, 91.
Supernumerary ministers, 49.
Suspension of preachers, 56, 57.

Teachers of Sunday schools, 93.
Tellers:
annual-conference, 39.
local, 39, 40.
Temperance, 79.
Thank-offering, 105.
Thanksgiving days, bishops may appoint, 54.
Tobacco, 44, 47, 79.
Transfers:
of members, 27, 166.
of preachers, 47, 168.
limit of transfer, 48.
Treasurer:
of local church, 32, 33.
of Missionary Society:
duties of, 104.
security of, 107.
Trials:
of exhorters, 34, 56.
of members, 25, 26, 27.
for disobedience, 26.
for immoral conduct, 25.
going to law forbidden, 27.
in disputes, 26.
order in, 27.
personal trespass, 25.
president at, 57, 62.
records of, 27.
of preachers, 56.
annual-conference, 56.
quarterly-conference, 34, 56.
Trustees:
of churches, 82.
of Printing Establishment, 123.
of the United Brethren in Christ, 86.
of Woman's Missionary Association, 110.

Union, necessity of, 24.
Union Biblical Seminary:
annual collections for, 134.
business manager of, 133.
directors of, 132, 133.
endowment funds, 134.

entrance examination, 135.
obligation of faculty, 134.
officers of, 132.
postgraduate studies, 135.
under control of General Conference, 16.
United Brethren Publishing House, *see* Printing Establishment.
Upper Wabash Conference, boundary of, 149.

VACANCIES:
in bishopric, 55.
in pastoral charges, 61.
in presiding elders' districts, 52.
Vacant church-houses and parsonages, 84.
Virginia Conference, boundary of, 149.
Visiting by pastors, 64.

WAR, 81.
West Africa Conference, boundary of, 150.
West District, bishops', 140.
West Nebraska Conference, boundary of, 150.
West Tennessee Conference, boundary of, 149.
West Virginia Conference, boundary of, 150.
White River Conference, boundary of, 150.
Wisconsin Conference, boundary of, 151.
Withdrawal of members, form for, 166.
Women's Aid Society, constitution, 115.
Woman's Missionary Association:
branch constitution, 111.
branch societies, 111.
by-laws, 109.
form of bequest, 111, 169.
incorporation, 109.
local constitution, 113.
management, 110.
membership, 109.
relation to Church, 111.
Women, granting license to, 46.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHRISTIAN UNION:
branch unions, 97.
constitution of, 95.
conventions, 97.
duties of pastors toward, 62.
duties of presiding elders toward, 52.
Junior society:
constitution, 98.
pledge, 99.

organization, 94.
presidents of, members of quarterly conference, 33.
reports to General Conference, 94.
reports to quarterly conference, 94, 171.
Watchword, 94.
young members to unite with, 22.